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REVIEWS

Tradesmen's Tokens, current in London and its Vicinity between the Years 1648 and 1672. Described from the Originals in the British Museum and in several Private Collections. By John Yonge Akerman. Smith.

THE tokens which every tavern and tippling-house (in the days of the late anarchy among us) presum'd to stamp and utter for immediate exchange, as they were passable through the neighbourhood, which, tho' seldom reaching further than the next street or two, may happily, in after-times come to exercise and busie the learned critic what they should signifie,—so honest John Evelyn: and "the learned critic," whose attention they have now accordingly exercised has in the book before us been able to catalogue 2,461 different types issued in London alone between 1648 and 1672. They are arranged according to streets and localities; so that the whole forms a kind of Tradesman's Guide or Post-office Directory to London as it was in the days of Oliver Cromwell and Charles II. A careful Index of names completes the catalogue, and will be found of use.

In a brief Introduction which exhausts all the previous information on the subject of the copper coinage of Great Britain, and contributes at the same time something that is new, Mr. Akerman acquaints his readers with the origin of the token money. We shall not attempt to follow him in this matter (we would rather refer our readers to his book); but shall content ourselves with the general observation that this class of coin had its rise in the want of a smaller change for the purposes of both seller and consumer. That the seller was the chief gainer by the introduction of this small change into circulation may be inferred from the circumstance that the tokens themselves were invariably struck at the expense of the tradesman whose name and sign they bore. The tavern keepers were the principal persons issuing this kind of money; and some of the signs here catalogued from their tokens curiously illustrate the list of taverns given by Thomas Heywood, the author of the fine old play of 'A Woman killed with Kindness.' Heywood, who wrote in 1608, is telling us what particular houses were frequented by particular classes of people:—

The gentry to the King's Head,
The nobles to the Crown,
The Knights unto the Golden Fleece,
And to the Plough the clown.
The churchman to the Mitre,
The shepherd to the Star,
The gardener hies him to the Rose,
To the Drum the man of war;
To the Feathers, ladies you; the Globe
The seaman doth not scorn:
The usurer to the Devil, and
The townsman to the Horn.
The huntsman to the White Hart,
To the Ship the merchants go,
But you that do the Muses love,
The sign called River Po.
The banquerout to the World's End,
The fool to the Fortune Pie,
Unto the Mouth the oyster-wife,
The fiddler to the pie.
The punk unto the Cockatrice,
The drunkard to the Vine,
The beggar to the Bush, then meet,
And with Duke Humphrey dine.

Temple Bar Without was famous for its taverns. The Rose contained, we may mention (Mr. Akerman does not), a very curious painting about which Walpole was curious; the Palsgrave's Head is referred to by Prior,—and "at the sign of the Ship, next to the Drake, opposite to the Palsgrave Head Tavern," lived William Faithorne the engraver:—

"THE ROSE TAVERN. A full-blown rose.—R. WITH-
OVT TEMPLE BARR. In the field, R. E. H.
"THE PALSgrave HEAD. Bust of the Palsgrave.—

R. WITHOVT TEMPLE BARR. In the field, I. D. B.

"AT THE SHIP WITHOVT. A ship in full sail.—R. TEMPLE BARR, 1649. In the field, W. M. S."

Old Fish Street in the City—"the goodly landscape of Old Fish Street," as Davenant calls it—was also celebrated for its taverns. Mr. Akerman introduces us to Henry VII., Cardinal Wolsey, and Will. Somers, King Henry the Eighth's jester.—

"THE KING'S HEAD TAVERN. The full-faced bust of Henry VII.—R. IN OLD FISHE STREET. In the field, W. R. A.

"AT THE CARDINAL WOOLSEY. In the field, W. E. M.—R. BACKSIDE, OVLD FISH STREET. Bust of the Cardinal to the left between his OB.

"AT CARDVNL WOOLS. Bust of Cardinal Wolsey. R. IN OVLD FISH STREET. In the field, I. E. P.

"AT Y^e WILL SOMERS, BACKSIDE. A figure clad in a long gown, and wearing a hat, blowing a horn. In the field, OB.—R. OVLD FISH STREET, 1666. In the field, two flowers, the stalks uniting below in a true lover's knot, between the initials, I. M. W."

We have had Henry VII. in Old Fish Street, and now we have Henry VIII. in New Fish Street, on Fish Street Hill.—

"THO. BLAGRAVE, KINGS. Bust of Henry VIII. holding the sceptre.—R. READ NEW FISH STREET. In the field, T. I. E."

Upon which Mr. Akerman observes.—

"The King's Head in Bridge Street, or, as it was more commonly called, New Fish Street, was, at one time, held by a person named Thomas Benson, who by indenture assigned his interest to the utterer of this token. The premises were destroyed in the great fire; and by the decree of the judges in 1668, they are to be rebuilt, with two shops on each side of the entrance to the tavern, 'for fishmongers or other trades, fronting to Fish Street.'—(MS. penes T. W. King, Esq. York Herald.) Thomas Blagrove, however, appears to have been a specimen of the rolling stone, for we find him also, by another token, in Threadneedle Street. The sign appears to have been an old one. On the — of January, 1561-2, the company of fishmongers dined at this tavern (Machyn's Diary, p. 275).

We may add to this account that the tavern is mentioned by Ben Jonson and several other writers,—and that King's Head Court, on Fish Street Hill, still denotes its site.

The Boar's Head, in Eastcheap, ranks in popularity with the Tabard, the Mermaid, the Devil, and the Mitre. The tokens of this celebrated house are very scarce.—

"THE BORES HEAD TAVERN. A boar's head.—R. IN GREAT EAST CHEAP. In the field, I. I. B."

The Mermaid in Cheap (Ben Jonson's Mermaid) stood in Bread Street, not, as is commonly said, in Friday Street. The token of the house is thus described.—

"AT Y^e MEAREMAYD. A mermaid, with her accustomed attributes.—R. TAVERN CHEAPSIDE. In the field, I. T. M."

The Devil Tavern is still rarer. The initials stand for Simon Wadloe,—immortalized by Ben Jonson, and by Squire Western's favourite air 'Old Sir Simon the King.'—

"AT THE D. AND DVNSTANS. The representation of the saint standing at his anvil, and pulling the nose of the 'd.' with his pincers.—R. WITHIN TEMPLE BARRE. In the field, I. S. W."

The Mitre, in Fleet Street, was the favourite resort of Dr. Johnson and James Boswell.—

"WILLIAM PAGET AT THE. A mitre.—R. MITRE IN FLEET STREET. In the field, W. E. P.

"The Mitre still flourishes in Mitre Court, Fleet Street, nearly 'over against' Fetter Lane, and, like most houses in the vicinity of the inns of court, can boast of good fare. Peppys sometimes looked in here to drink with a friend. It was once the resort of men known to literature and science; amongst others, of Johnson and his follower and admirer, Boswell. In that amusing volume, 'The Gold-headed Cane,' by the late Dr. Macmichael, the following passage

occurs: Dr. Radcliff *loquitur*:—"I never recollect to have spent a more delightful evening than that at the Mitre Tavern, in Fleet Street, where my good friend Billy Nutly, who was indeed the better half of me, had been prevailed upon to accept of a small temporary assistance, and joined our party, the Earl of Denbigh, Lords Colepeper and Stowel, and Mr. Blackmore." Here the Society of Antiquaries met, before apartments were assigned to them in Somerset House. 'The Society, hitherto having no house of their own,' says Maitland, 'meet every Thursday evening about seven o'clock, at the Mitre Tavern, in Fleet-street, where antiquities are produced and considered, draughts and impressions thereof taken, dissertations read, and minutes of the several transactions entered; and the whole economy under such admirable regulations, that probably in a short time they may apply for a royal power of incorporation.' Mitre Court was within the precincts of the Sanctuary."

The Hercules Pillars in Fleet Street was the house in which Mr. Peppys would drink a bottle of wine with a friend when on his way home from Whitehall to his house in Seething Lane.

"ED. OLDHAM AT Y HERCVLES. A crowned male figure standing erect, and grasping a pillar with each hand.—R. PILLERS IN FLEET STREET. In the field, HIS HALF PENNY, E. P. O.

"From this example, it would seem that the locality, called Hercules Pillars Alley, like other places in London, took its name from the tavern. The mode of representing the pillars of Hercules is somewhat novel; and, but for the inscription, we should have supposed the figure to represent Sampson clutching the pillars of the temple of Dagon. At the trial of Stephen Colledge, for high-treason, in 1681, an Irishman named Haynes, swore that he walked to the Hercules Pillars with the accused, and that in a room up-stairs Colledge spoke of his treasonable designs and feeling. On another occasion the parties walked from Richard's coffee-house to this tavern, where it was sworn they had a similar conference. Colledge, in his defence, denies the truth of the allegation, and declares that the walk from the coffee-house to the tavern is not more than a bow-shot, and that during such walk the witness had all the conversation to himself, though he had sworn that treasonable expressions had been made use of on their way thither. Peppys frequented this tavern: in one part of his Diary he says, 'with Mr. Creed to Hercules Pillars, where we drank' (p. 142). In another, 'in Fleet-street I met with Mr. Salisbury who is now grown in less than two years' time so great a limner that he is become excellent and gets a great deal of money at it. I took him to Hercules Pillars to drink' (p. 237)."

Some of the tokens exhibit the curious corruptions in the names of streets. Tooley Street, Southwark, is properly St. Olave's Street.

"AT 3 TOBACCO PIPES. Three tobacco pipes.—R. IN S. OLIVES STREET. In the field, M. C.; above, an ermine spot.

"CHARLES COOKE, 1667. In the field, HIS HALF PENY.—R. IN ST. TOOLEYS STREET. In the field AT THE KINGS ARMS."

Another token—"AT THE TARLETON. The figure of Tarlton, with a pipe and tabour.—R. IN WHEELERS STREET. In the field, W. F. W."—affords a capital illustration of a couplet in Bishop Hall's satires—

O honour far beyond a brazen shrine
To sit with Tarlton on an ale-post's sign.
The figure is similar to the engraved illustration from one of the British Museum MSS.

The Bag of Nails at the bottom of Arabella Row, Pimlico, is supposed to have been a corruption of The Bacchanals. The name was not uncommon.—

"Henry Hurdam in Tuttle Street, Westminster. In five lines across the field.—R. AT Y^e BAG OF NAILS, HIS HALF PENY. In the field, a bag of nails, on which is a crown hammer, between H. E. H. and 1663."

The Labour in Vain was a favourite sign and was sometimes humorously represented. THOMAS CROSS CHANDLER. A negro standing in a tub, two women scrubbing him. [The labour

in vain.]—R. IN TURNMILL STREET. In the field, T. G. C.
Another token introduces us to King Charles the Second's Chairman, and tells us where he lived.—

"JOHN WILLIAMS, THE KINGS CHAIRMAN, AT Y^e LOWER END OF. In six lines across the field.—R. ST. MARTINS LANE, AT Y^e BALCONY, HIS HALFPENNY, 1667. In six lines across the field. (Octagonal)."

They show at the Cock Tavern, in Fleet Street, the only known token of the house. It is often asked for and has been much coveted. The Rainbow, the rival establishment, is not so fortunate as to possess its token,—which nevertheless exists.

"JAMES FARR, 1666. A rainbow.—R. IN FLEET STREET. In the centre, HIS HALFPENNY.

"It is well known that James Farr kept the Rainbow in Fleet Street, at the time of the great fire, the very year of which is marked on this token; or some might be disposed to question the propriety of our designating the unethereal object on the obverse, a rainbow. Farr was a barber, and, in the year 1767, was presented by the inquest of St. Dunstan's in the West, for making and selling 'a sort of liquor called "coffee,"' which was described as a great nuisance and prejudice to the neighbourhood! The house known by the sign of the Rainbow, appears to have been let off into tenements, for Samuel Speed, at the sign of the Rainbow, near the Inner Temple gate, in Fleet Street.' This kind of division appears to have been not uncommon. Isaac Walton, whose place of business was at the sign of the Harrow, just opposite, occupied the house jointly with a brother tradesman."

The once favourite sign of "THE SALVATION TAVERN" was represented by

"Two figures, in the costume of the period, saluting each other."

Upon which Mr. Akerman remarks:—

"We suspect the device of this token to be a perversion, and that the original sign really represented the salutation of the Virgin by the angel—'AVE MARIA, GRACIA PLENA'—a well-known legend on the jettons of the middle ages. The change of representation was properly accommodated to the times. The taverns at that period were the 'gossiping shops' of the neighbourhood; and both puritan and churchman frequented them for the sake of hearing the news, which in the days when morning and evening newspapers were not published, brought many together, like the Athenians of old, 'to hear some new thing.' The puritans loved the good things of this world, and relished a cup of Canary, or Noll's nose lid holding the maxim:—

Though the devil trepan
The Adamic man,
The saint stands uninfected.

Hence, perhaps, the salutation of the Virgin was exchanged for the 'hooin' and scrapin' scene represented on this token. This tavern, which still exists, was celebrated in the days of Queen Elizabeth. In some old black letter doggerel, entitled, 'News from Bartholemew Fayre,' it is thus mentioned:—

There hath been great sale and utterance of wine,
Besides beere, and ale, and Ipcras fine;
In every country, region, and nation,
But chiefly in Billingsgate, at the Salvation.

The Bell Savage on Ludgate Hill was represented by an Indian woman holding an arrow and a bow.—

"HENRY YOUNG AT Y^e. An Indian woman holding an arrow and a bow.—R. ON LYDGATE HILL. In the field, H. M. Y.

"There is a tradition [Mr. Akerman writes] that the origin of this sign, and not only of the inn, but also of the name of the court in which it is situate, was derived from that of Isabella Savage, whose property they once were, and who conveyed them by deed to the Cutlers' Company. This, we may observe, is a mistake. The name of the person who left the Bell Savage to the Cutlers' Company was Craythorne, not Savage."

The token of the Hole in the Wall suggests to Mr. Akerman the following piece of gossip.—

"The Hole in the Wall' still exists in Chancery Lane. It was a popular sign, and several taverns

bore the same designation, which probably originated in a certain tavern being situated in some umbrageous recess in the old city walls. Many of the most popular and most frequented taverns of the present day are located in twilight courts and alleys, into which Phœbus peeps at Midsummer tide only when on the meridian. Such localities may have been selected on more than one account: they not only afforded good skulking 'holes' for those who loved drinking better than work; but beer and other liquors keep better in the shade. These haunts, like Lady Mary's farm, were—

'In summer shady, and in winter warm.'

Rawlins, the engraver of the fine and much coveted Oxford Crown, with a view of the city under the horse, dates a quaint supplicatory letter to John Evelyn, 'from the Hole in the Wall, in St. Martin's,' no misnomer, we will be sworn, in that aggregation of debt and dissipation, when debtors were imprisoned with a very remote chance of redemption. In the days of Rye-house and Meal-Tub plots, philanthropy overlooked such little matters; and Small Debts Bills were not dreamt of in the philosophy of speculative legislators. Among other places which bore the designation of the Hole in the Wall, there was one in Chandos Street, in which the famous Duval, the highwayman, was apprehended after an attack on—two bottles of wine, probably drugged by a 'friend' or mistress."

A token with an archer upon it elicits a passage or two equally pleasant.—

"JOHN THOMLINSON AT THE. An archer fitting an arrow to his bow; a small figure behind, holding an arrow.—R. IN CHISWELL STREET, 1667. In the centre, HIS HALFPENNY, AND L. S. T.

"It is easy to perceive what is intended by the representation on the obverse of this token. Though 'Little John,' we are told, stood upwards of six good English feet without his shoes, he is here depicted to suit the popular humour—a dwarf in size, compared with his friend and leader, the bold outlaw. The proximity of Chiswell-street to Finsbury-fields may have led to the adoption of the sign, which was doubtless at a time when archery was considered an elegant as well as indispensable accomplishment of an English gentleman. It is far from obsolete now, as several low public-houses and beer-shops in the vicinity of London testify. One of them exhibits Robin Hood and his companion dressed in the most approved style of 'Astley's,' and underneath the group is the following irresistible invitation to slake your thirst:—

'Ye archers bold and yeomen good,
Stop and drink with Robin Hood:
If Robin Hood is not at home,
Stop and drink with Little John.'

Our London readers could doubtless supply the variorum copies of this elegant distich, which, as this is an age for 'Family Shakspeare's,' modernized Chaucers, and new versions of 'Robin Hood's Garland,' we recommend to the notice of the next editor of the ballads in praise of the Sherwood Freebooter."

Mr. Akerman has been somewhat sparing of his notes:—but his illustrations (his engraved plates) are both numerous and good. The Mitre in Cheap,—the Rose,—the White Horse, in Drury Lane,—the Cock, in Cockpit Court, Shoe Lane,—the Phoenix,—the King's Head, in Tooley Street,—and several other taverns would admit of much pleasant anecdote in a future edition.

Kaloolah, or, Journeyings to the Djébel Kumri.

An Autobiography of Jonathan Romer. Edited by W. S. Mayo, M.D. Bogue.

Travellers are strange persons—and Americans the strangest of all who travel. Nothing can escape them. No land is too far—no nook too dark for their researches. If a taste for copper should lead you to the bottom of a Cornish mine, there will be found one of the sovereigns of the great Republic: should a cool morning tempt you to the top of the grand Pyramid, there you will find cousin Jonathan astride the apex: the oasis of Siwah, the Dead Sea, the Chilian Mountains, Beloochistan and Timbuctoo, all know his visits and have heard of the glory of his native cities. Should the north-west

passage ever be discovered a Yankee will probably be found there settled on a stranded iceberg; and some fine day we expect to hear that M. d'Abbadie has come upon a camp of Yankee-Arabs pic-nic-ing at the Sources of the Nile. The adventures, energies and powers of our cousins-german grow quite alarming. "Rough and ready" has extinguished Bonaparte; the march of Col. Doniphan into New Mexico has put down the Retreat of the Ten Thousand; "Mardi" has for ever eclipsed Marco Polo. Lieut. Wilkes has put down—but we must take breath. Time and space fail us before such an enumeration.

An American has said of his countrymen that the genuine Yankee would not be able to repose in Heaven itself if he could travel further westward. He must go a-head. Prophecy looks forward to the time when the Valley of the Mississippi shall overflow with this restless population,—and Europe be subject to a new migration. "What do I consider the boundaries of my country, sir?" exclaimed a Kentuckian. "Why, sir, on the east we are bounded by the rising sun—on the north by the aurora borealis—on the west by the precession of the equinoxes—and on the south by the day of judgment!" These political claims and controversies, however, it suits not our pages to discuss:—our business is with the "last development of time" in the person of Mr. Romer and his book 'Kaloolah.'

And here let us warn the reader at once against the trick by which Dr. Mayo seeks to throw a doubt over the veracity of Mr. Romer's adventures. In spite of his insinuation, we believe as firmly in 'Kaloolah' as we do in Gulliver. It is true, that our new hero goes through more perils than any other man has undergone since the days of Hercules—that he sees more sights, exhibits more prowess, suffers more changes of fortune than any hero out of the 'Arabian Nights.' But then, he is an American, and writes his own story. True it is, that the *out-Mardi's* 'Mardi'—but who shall limit the genius of American go-a-head-ism? Who shall say to the "most particular nation on record" thus far shalt thou go and no farther? Then again, what more likely than that papers should be written in cipher and carried by a Moorish merchant from Framazugda to civilization! Surely papers have been found in strange ways and places before now! Let us get up our faith;—and turn unmisgivingly to an example or two of the wonders recorded in the pages of 'Kaloolah.'

Mr. Romer's adventures on land and sea, as a slave and as a prince, are too numerous to be here catalogued. The most that we can do is to detail a few specimens. Romer is of a race of heroes. The most "emancipated" genius—American or English—could hardly give his hero a more fitting ancestry.—

"The traditions of my family abound with stories of shipwreck and death, and of 'hair-breadth 'scapes' from the imminent dangers of the sea. One relative was wrecked upon a desert island of the Pacific, and supported life for months upon the eggs of the penguin. Another—a Macy—was found floating upon a spar three days after his ship had foundered with all her crew. Still another was an officer of a ship which was struck and destroyed by an infuriated *cachetot*, whether by accident or design remains a disputed point amongst whalers. The boats of the ship were out in pursuit of a 'school' of whales, when the officer in charge of the deck perceived an enormous animal coming down in the direction on which the vessel was standing, with fearful rapidity. It was apparent that, unless the ship's course was changed, in an instant more a collision would take place; and the steersman was directed to put the helm up, in order to give her a sheer out of the way,—but it was too late. Her bows had fallen off but a point or two when the whale struck her, 'head on,'

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with tremendous force. Recovering from their astonishment, the crew proceeded to examine into the injury which the ship had suffered. It was soon ascertained that no very serious damage had been sustained; when one of the looks-out appalled them with the shout, 'Here she comes again!' and down came the whale with renewed fury,—a broad sheet of white foam attesting the rapidity of her progress. Again she struck the ill-fated vessel in nearly the same place—just forward of the fore-chains. It was now evident that the ship was materially injured. Signals were made for the boats to return; they came alongside, and as the vessel was beginning to settle rapidly by the head, provisions and instruments were put into them. In a few hours she went down, and her crew in three boats were left in the middle of the vast Pacific. Only one of the three, after tossing months upon the ocean, and enduring the extremes of hunger and thirst, succeeded in reaching land. Another member of my family was the identical boat-steerer of whom an anecdote has been often told, illustrative of the characteristic coolness of the Yankee whaler. The boat to which he belonged was once knocked several feet into the air by a blow from the tail of a fish to which it was fast. Upon coming down he fell into the whale's mouth, and the teeth of the animal closed upon his leg. After being in this terrible position for some time, he was released, picked up by another boat and carried on board, where, while preparations were making to amputate his crushed limb, he was asked 'what he thought of while in the whale's mouth?' With the utmost sang froid and simplicity, he replied, 'Why, I thought he would yield about sixty barrels!'

Such a man was the natural heir to strange adventures. Accordingly, we are treated in his person to a shipwreck which cuts out Herman Melville,—adventures in the barracons on the Congo such as Commander Forbes cannot touch. Here Mr. Romer purchases two slaves—of course a prince and a princess,—the son and daughter of a powerful sovereign of the kingdom of the Framazugs, situate in the Djébel Kumri, among the Mountains of the Moon. After a series of adventures, the strangeness and variety of which would have delighted the queen of romancers, Scheherazade herself,—the three arrive at the capital of this wonderful country. London, Babylon, Pekin are nothing to Killoam. But then, everything else is on a scale equally grand and novel. The lions of Framazugda are twice or thrice the size of other lions; the boas of other lands are not to be thought of; there, champagne-punch grows *au naturel*; and there, is a sort of music for the nose produced by the emission of scents instead of sounds from the organ pipes. Of the various marvels of the land we can signalize only one or two:—which we do in the grave and sober language of the traveller.—

"After the feast came music, dancing, and a variety of juggling feats. The dancing girls were beautiful and very graceful in their movements, and the conjuring tricks were novel and performed with great skill. Some of them were truly wonderful, as, for instance, turning a man into a tree bearing fruit, and with monkeys skipping about in the branches; and another case, where the chief juggler, apparently swallowed five men, ten boys and a jackass, threw them all up again, turned himself inside out, blew himself up like a balloon, and exploding with a loud report, disappeared in a puff of luminous vapour. My companions declared that we had got into a country of enchanters, and I could not but admire the skill with which the tricks were performed, although I was too much of a Yankee to be much astonished at anything in the *Hey! Presto!* line."

We ought to mention that our hero when a slave to the Arabs ran away, like his dark countryman Prince Zamba; and that, marauding about the desert on a beast which he had "found," he soon gathered a retinue of followers together. First, he found an Irishman in the wilderness. And why not? Surely he had as much right to find Hugh Doyle in El Garwan as Dr. Coulter had to find Terence Connel a

king among the Horrafuras. Then, he picks up an Englishman, blunt Jack Thompson,—a fellow wonderfully like Don Juan's Jack Johnson,—but of course it could not be the same.—How Mr. Romer was received at the court of Killoam,—how he made love to the great Shounsé's daughter and war upon his enemies the Jalla and the fierce Footas—how he became a conqueror and a father—what he intends to do for the comparatively uncivilized lands of Europe and America,—and when we benighted Northerners may expect to hear fresh intelligence from the Djébel Kumri, we must leave the curious reader to discover for himself in the marvellous pages to which Dr. Mayo stands sponsor.

We have seen that our traveller piques himself upon the fact that being a Yankee he is not to be easily astonished. His countrymen have too "large a capacity" for knowledge to be alarmed at its most extravagant forms: and if others have seen and done wonders, so has he. To show that Jonathan Romer is equal to his birthright in his use of fact and illustration,—let us quote part of a desert scene.—

"Advancing to the crest of the cliff, we stood looking down its precipitous sides to a point some twenty feet below, where grew a bunch of wild honeysuckles. Suddenly a startling noise, like the roar of thunder, or like the boom of a thirty-two pounder, rolled through the wood, fairly shaking the sturdy trees, and literally making the ground quiver beneath our feet. Again it came, that appalling and indescribably awful sound! and so close as to completely stun us. Roar upon roar, in quick succession, now announced the coming of the king of beasts. 'The lion! the lion!—Oh, God of mercy! where is my gun?' I started forward, but it was too late. Alighting, with a magnificent bound, into the open space in front of us, the monster stopped, as if somewhat taken aback by the novel appearance of his quarry, and crouching his huge carcass close to the ground, uttered a few deep snuffling sounds, not unlike the preliminary crankings and growlings of a heavy steam-engine, when it first feels the pressure of the steam. He was, indeed, a monster!—fully twice as large as the largest specimen of his kind that was ever condemned, by gaping curiosity, to the confinement of the cage. His body was hardly less in size than that of a dray-horse; his paw as large as the foot of an elephant; while his head! what can be said of such a head? Concentrate the fury, the power, the capacity and the disposition for evil of a dozen thunder-storms into a round globe, about two feet in diameter, and one would then be able to get an idea of the terrible expression of that head and face, enveloped and set off as it was by the dark frame-work of bristling mane. * * Within thirty feet of my huge foe I stopped—cool, calm as a statue; not an emotion agitated me. No hope, no fear: death was too certain to permit either passion.

* * I had time to think of many things, although it must not be supposed, from the leisurely way in which I here tell the story, that the whole affair occupied much time. Like lightning, flashing from link to link along a chain conductor, did memory illuminate, almost simultaneously, the chain of incidents that measured my path in life, and that connected the present with the past. I could see the whole of my back track 'blazed,' as clearly as ever was a forest path by a woodsman's axe, and ahead! oh, there was not much to see ahead! 'Twas but a short view; death hedged in the scene. In a few minutes my eyes would be opened to the pleasant sights beyond; but, for the present, death commanded all attention. And such a death! but why such a death? What better death, except on the battlefield, in defence of one's country? To be killed by a lion! Surely, there is a spice of dignity about it, maigre the being eaten afterwards. Suddenly the monster stopped, and erected his tail, stiff and motionless, in the air. Strange as it may seem, the conceit occurred to me that the motion of his tail had acted as a safety valve to the pent-up muscular energy within: 'He has shut the steam off from the 'scape-pipe, and now he turns it on his locomotive machinery. God have mercy upon me!—He comes!'

* * He was in the very act of springing! His huge carcass was even rising under the impulsion of his contracting muscles, when his action was arrested in a way so unexpected, so wonderful and so startling, that my senses were for the moment thrown into perfect confusion. Could I trust my sight, or was the whole affair the illusion of a horrid dream? It seemed as if one of the gigantic creepers I have mentioned had suddenly quitted the canopy above, and, endowed with life and a huge pair of widely distended jaws, had darted with the rapidity of lightning upon the crouching beast. There was a tremendous shaking of the tree tops, and a confused wrestling and jumping, and whirling over and about, amid a cloud of upturned roots, and earth, and leaves, accompanied with the most terrific roars and groans. As I looked again, vision grew more distinct. An immense body, gleaming with purple, green and gold, appeared convoluted around the majestic branches overhead, and stretching down, was turned two or three times around the struggling lion, whose head and neck were almost concealed from sight within the cavity of a pair of jaws still more capacious than his own. * * Gallantly did the lion struggle in the folds of his terrible enemy, whose grasp each instant grew more firm and secure, and most astounding were those frightful yells of rage and fear. The huge body of the snake, fully two feet in diameter, where it depended from the trees, presented the most curious appearance, and in such quick succession that the eye could scarcely follow them. At one moment smooth and flexible, at the next rough and stiffened, or contracted into great knots—at one moment overspread with a thousand tints of reflected color, the next distended so as to transmit, through the skin, the golden gleams of the animal lightning that coursed up and down within. * * The lion was quite dead, and, with a slow motion the snake was uncoiling himself from his prey and from the tree above. As well as I could judge, without seeing him straightened out, he was between ninety and one hundred feet in length—not quite so long as the serpent with which the army of Regulus had its famous battle, or as many of the same animals that I have since seen, but, as the reader will allow, a very respectable sized snake."

After this, we are only surprised that Jonathan did not kill the boa—and eat him!

In conclusion we may recommend 'Kaloolah' to the lovers of grave irony as a pleasant companion for an idle hour. As a specimen of solemn and well-sustained satire on the pretension and extravagance of American books of fiction and adventure we have nothing to compare with it.

Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London. Vol. I.—April 1843 to April 1849. Printed for the Society of Antiquaries.

It is with great satisfaction that we see the completion of the first volume of the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London*. Originally suggested by the then director, Mr. Way—who was sensible of the advantage to be gained to the Society and to the objects for which it was instituted, by opening the door to a more easy and frequent communication with the members generally, and more particularly with those residing at a distance from London, by circulating among them at short intervals, and in addition to the annual half volume of the *Archæologia*, condensed abstracts of the proceedings of the society,—the work before us was commenced and carried on for some time by that gentleman, with the good taste and antiquarian judgment for which he is distinguished. When the unhappy dissensions which for so long a period marked the weekly meetings of the Society led to Mr. Way's resignation of his office of director, his successor, Capt. Smyth, appears to have entered fully into the spirit of his predecessor; and he has continued to edit these *Proceedings* with a zeal and labour which entitle him to the warm thanks of the Society. He has now, as we have said, brought to com-

pletion a volume which, less perhaps from the character of its contents than from the results that will attend its publication, will probably form one of the most important ever issued by the Society. In these Proceedings the Fellows will have—what they have long felt the want of—a channel for the early publication of such small facts as, trivial in themselves, become valuable as links in a great chain; but which being laid before the Society in minor communications, have hitherto been printed only at the end of every second year—and have therefore failed to a great degree in the very object which they were intended to effect, namely, the calling forth of further information on the same subjects.

Let us illustrate this by an example. We find at page 300, that on the 18th of January of the present year Mr. Diamond

“exhibited and presented to the Society’s Museum two Shields of Arms and an Armed Figure, fragments of Sepulchral Brasses apparently of the XVth century, purchased by him some years since, of a person who stated them to have been dredged from the bed of the river Thames. The armed figure was remarkable as having the badge or device of an open crown placed on the left shoulder.”

This “Crown Badge” excited a good deal of attention at the time; and no satisfactory explanation of its objects or signification has, we believe, yet been obtained. But we read that on the 1st March,

“A Letter from John Bruce, Esq. F.S.A. to Sir Henry Ellis was read, citing examples of the Crown Badge as represented upon the Sepulchral Brass lately given to the Society’s Museum by Hugh Welch Diamond, Esq., and referring particularly to a brass in the church of St. Neot’s, in Huntingdonshire, as recorded by Gregory King in his Visitation of that county in 1684 for Thomas Lynde, Yeoman of the Crown. Mr. Bruce showed the occurrence of the same badge in no less than five other known English brasses [q.v. *where?*]; still, however, leaving it in doubt whether the badge in question was specifically that of a Yeoman of the Crown, or that of a Servant of the Sovereign.”

The completion of the present volume affords an opportunity, which will we hope not be lost sight of, of introducing a new and important feature—woodcut illustrations—into the future numbers. Of the propriety of this there can be no doubt; and we know of few ways in which some portion of the funds of the Society could be more beneficially employed. We hope also that advantage will be taken of the opportunity for increasing the number of copies struck off,—so as to admit of a large gratuitous distribution of these Proceedings among gentlemen resident in the country known to be attached to Archaeological pursuits, and among the more important literary associations in the provinces. The cost to the Society of the two measures which we have suggested would be very trifling,—while the benefits resulting from them could not be otherwise than considerable.

Lives of the Lindsays. By Lord Lindsay.

(Second Notice.)

THE next Lindsay upon whose “*faites et gestes*” we alight when re-opening this welcome book was not, like him of the Byres (at whose name we closed the volume), a terror to Royalty, but a worthy who took stately part in its “pride, pomp, and circumstance.” This was David Lindsay, Bishop of Ross, who “baptized King Charles the First and his elder brother Prince Henry”—the latter at the Palace at Stirling. The christening was celebrated by a gorgeous and elaborate masque; which, among other marvels, included “six gallant dames who represented a silent comedy” (pantomime), “their names being Ceres, Plenty, Faith, Concord, Liberality, and Perseverance.” They were seated round a banquet table sumptuously

spread, which was drawn in upon a triumphal car.—

“This chariot, we are informed, ‘should have been drawn in by a lion, but, because his presence might have brought some fear to the nearest, or that the sight of the lights and torches might have commoved his tameness, he was supplied by a Moor.’”

Somewhat Herculean—nay, rather Atlantean—must have been this Moor! Who can read the above without thinking of Shakspeare and the prologue of his Athenian mechanics? When the chariot was disposed of, there sailed in a ship, eighteen feet long and forty feet high, with Thetis, Triton, and the Sirens. While reading of these splendours, we seem to have wandered away from the chronicle of Beardsies and Lords of the Byres,—into some chapter by Pere Menestrier, or Marcello, or Noverre, or other historians of opera decoration and opera machinery.

The Lindsays also numbered among them men learned in arts different from the rhyming skill of the Lord Lion King—or from the mastership of such revels as those presided over by this magnificent Man of Ross. Yet another David Lindsay (of Balcarres) flourished in Scotland early in the seventeenth century, who dabbled in alchemy and other occult and mystic sciences, and was consulted as a friend and “trusty fere” by Scott of Scotstarvet and Drummond of Hawthornden.—

“To the right worshipful Sir David Lindsay of Balcarres, Knight.

July 26, 1622.

“Sir,—Though I be not ever able to acquit, yet do I never forget, received courtesies, but most when they are bestowed by the worthiest and such as is yourself,—to whom I have been many times obliged, and last, when in your house you so kindly received me with the sight of your library, and gift of your Amirus. I would often since have answered your book, though unable those other courtesies, but, considering what a difficulty it were to send you a book which ye (perhaps) had not already, or a new one, ye having so good intelligence abroad, I have been bold to present you with this of mine own, which, though of small worth, is a new one, and only singular in this, that it is not to be found in any library, I having caused print only some copies equalling the number of my friends and those to whom I am beholden, which are not, the world knows, many,—among whom I have ever esteemed and found you. Thus, if my error will not admit defence, it may excuse, proceeding from the affection of him, Sir! who desireth in what is within the compass of his power to serve you,

“WILLIAM DRUMMOND.

“My humble duty and service remembered to your all-worthy lady.”

The notices of this literary Sir David induct us (so to say) into an epoch of greater tranquillity and civilization: when beings gentler than chief, warrior, or churchman begin to grace the family picture. Hitherto, the notices of the women of the race have been scanty. In the first volume, it is true, a *Leddy Grippy* figures in a note,—this being the litigious widow of Earl John, who perished at Flodden—one Marlon Home, who was sued by Earl Alexander “for wrongly withholding from him his guides of heirship, that is to say, his best gown of black satin, linit with fringes, price” (or value) “ane hundred merks, ane great silver pot, with the cover, containing forty gilt unces, price forty-eight merks, ane great silver coup, wryt the cover owre gilt wyt gold, contened xx unces, price xl merks, vi silver spunys, his best furnest bed,” &c. But as we approach nearer to the times of the Lady Anne Barnard, more winning figures are seen “seated by the hearth” and taking a place in the record. Sir David’s lady is thanked by one Ludovick Fowler, an officer in the army, for the care by her taken “of his motherless children during their father’s

absence on duty abroad.” His daughter Margaret, who died aged fifteen, is commemorated by her parents as a child of more than ordinary promise; and her cousin Jean Maitland, who a year afterwards “departed this life” aged nineteen, was embalmed in verse by Drummond of Hawthornden.—

Lost have our meads their beauty, hills their gems,
Our brooks their crystal, groves their pleasant shade;
The fairest flower of all our anemans

Death cropped hath; the Lesbia chaiste is dead!

This domestic peace and quietness, which it is so pleasant to trace as “setting in” after ages of “darkness and storm,” were troubled, of course, during the Civil Wars. Neither were the latter without their disturbing influence on the characters as well as on the fortunes of some belonging to the family. From “the Wicked Master of Crawford” it seems only in the order of poetical justice that the “Prodigal Earl” should spring. That, however, which we note in imaginative faith, Lord Lindsay commemorates in seemingly serious earnest; and it is the occasional use of a certain phraseology in his book which makes our one objection to it.

“Wherefore breathe we in a Christian land” at a time when enlightenment animates and keeps pace with belief, if the old superstitions of “malignant star” and “hereditary curse,”—the description of misfortunes as expiatory and of calamities as judicial—he still allowed to figure in the annalist’s page? Lord Lindsay himself “undoes his own doings” when he points out that this same prodigal Earl never enjoyed a chance of acquiring prudence; having been neglected from his youth upwards, and having succeeded to a heritage in that desperate state of ruin which too often impresses the character of the Heir with a corresponding recklessness.—

“Left motherless at an early age and neglected by his father, (whose suspicious heart may possibly have wronged his second wife, as he had previously broken the heart of the bride of his youth, the fair Lillias Drummond,) the young Master was left entirely to the care and superintendence of Mr. Peter Nairn, his ‘pedagogue,’ whose letters to Edzell and Lord Menmuir from the University of St. Andrew’s pourtray most touchingly the desolation in which they lived.—‘Our letters,’ he writes in 1580, ‘are not received, the bearers boasted and threatened, our board is not paid in time—our meat therefore in “panis angustie” to us—we are in all men’s mouths for the same,—three years since the Master got any clothing, saif one stand (suit) at the King’s beand in our town. I have supplyt thir defects as my poverty and credit could serve,—there is no hope of redress but either to steal of the town, or sell our insight (furniture), or get some extraordinary help, gif it were possible. Haifing therefore used your Lordship’s mediation, [I] thought guid to crave your counsel in this straitness—as it were betwix shame and despair. The Master, beand now become ane man in stature and knowledge, takes this heavily but patiently, because he is, for his strait handling, in small accord with his marrows,—yet, praise be to God! above all his equals in learning. We have usit,” he adds, “since your Lordship’s beand in St. Andrew’s, all possible moeyen, in all reverence (as we ought) and humility, in dealing with the Earl, “but little or nothing mendit.”—And an earlier letter mentions the tears shed by the Master when, after long expectancy, his father visited the town—and left it without seeing him. His heart crushed, his self-esteem wounded, his attempts to win his father’s love rejected, all the sweet affections of his nature were turned to gall, his intellect ran to waste, and on attaining the independence of manhood, he gathered a band of broken Lindsays around him and revenged his childhood’s misery upon society. Love might yet have reclaimed him, but his marriage proved unfortunate—and a divorce released both wife and husband from what had become a more bond of bitterness. I have little more to relate of him except the strange circumstances of his latter years. Reckless and profuse, and alienating the possessions of the Earldom in a manner which

however unjust, could not, it would seem, be legally prevented, a solemn council was held by the family, who determined to imprison him for life, in order to prevent further dilapidation; they accordingly confined him in Edinburgh Castle, where he spent his remaining years under surveillance, but acting in every respect otherwise as a free agent. Hence the epithet by which he is frequently distinguished by contemporary genealogists, of 'Comes Incarceratus,' or the Captive Earl. He died in the Castle, in February, 1621, and was buried in the chapel of Holyrood-house, leaving only one child, Lady Jean Lindsay, an orphan, destitute and uncared for, and fated to still deeper debasement, having run away with a common 'jockey with the horn,' or public herald, and lived latterly by mendicancy—a sturdy beggar, though mindful still of the sphere from which she had fallen, and 'bitterly ashamed.' An aged lady related her melancholy history to Crawford the antiquary, who flourished during the early years of last century, adding that she remembered seeing her begging when she herself was young. Shortly after the Restoration, King Charles II. granted her a pension of one hundred a-year, 'in consideration of her eminent birth and necessitous condition,' and this probably secured her comfort during the evening of her days.

And here—perceiving that material for extract and comment increases in proportion as we "near the depths and shallows" of our own times—we must make a long skip: trusting ourselves neither with the deeds of Crawford, the ally of Montrose, nor with the achievements of the Earl of Balcarres, so affectingly rather than affectingly monotonized by the "melancholy Cowley." We must further pass with a word that "shining light," the Lady Balcarres, widow to the above, who had her praise in the prose of "the precious Mr. Baxter." Touching Earl Colin, too, we must content ourselves with the trait of his being found in a fit of absence on his bridal morning eating his breakfast in his night-gown and slippers when his bride was waiting at the altar, with the emeralds in her ears which the Prince of Orange (William the Third) had given her for wedding-gift. We must pass over many specimens of family correspondence which pleasantly illustrate the record,—having a more interesting point to reach and rest upon. Despite the admiration above claimed for the family mansion rich in its treasure-memorials of a long line of noble ancestry, there is a shrine yet more engaging to poetical fancy,—the ancient house in ruin. And thus, more interesting than the rise of the Lindsays of Balcarres is the fall of the Crawfords of Edzell. The declension of their line "began from the hour the troops of Montrose invaded Angus:" "the rebel army being for a long time encamped and quartered on the lands of Edzell and Glenesk, to the utter destruction of land and tenants,"—and a fine of 3,000*l.* being "imposed on John of Edzell after the Restoration for his adhesion to the Covenant." Yet the Edzells struggled on for a while to maintain that hospitality which had given to their castle the name of the "Kitchen of Angus," and those feudal rights which included the power over life and death in their domains. We shall turn to the 'Lives' for the rest of the legend.—

The last of these Lairds was the son of David, and grandson of John of Edzell. His history and that of his family is a very mournful one. He would never marry, partly owing to the depression of his fortunes, and partly to an early and unrequited passion for his cousin Jean Maria Lindsay, 'a lady whom he revered so very highly,' says her great grandson, my informant, 'that sometimes he would put the point of his sword to his breast, and would then declare that he could freely shed his blood for her.' This disappointment and his other misfortunes, preying on a haughty, sensitive, wayward and unregulated spirit, drove him to excesses of all kinds, good and bad,—to gallantry, extravagance, and reck-

lessness, and even, if report be true, to murder—and ended in utter ruin. 'He was strong in person,' says my venerable informant, 'as well as potent by reason of his numerous dependents and followers of his fortune, while he possessed the lands of Edzell; these could well wield the broadsword, and at his bidding follow him trustily, either in a good or a bad cause,—for it was a sad thing then to anger the Laird, either by a deficiency of fealty or disobedience to his orders.' So much did the very Catinare, or Highland cattle-stealers, stand in awe of him, that they never committed any depredation on his extensive property, which included the most, if not the whole four parishes of Edzell, Lochlee, Lethnot and Navar, although in his time they committed no little havoc both on Ferne on the west, and Glenbervie, eastward of Edzell. He was likewise a very noted hunter, and lived for a time in great abundance till, owing to various causes, but chiefly to his own gross imprudence and misconduct, he was forced to quit his fine property, which was purchased by the Earl of Panmure about 1714, intending to join the cause of the Stuarts against government, and chiefly, it was said, to obtain a hardy set of swordsmen to follow him in his intended enterprise; and he thereby succeeded David Lindsay in possession of the Edzell estate, but this he did not long retain, as he was forfeited the very next year, when that property was sold by government to the York Buildings Company, and David Lindsay, in the meanwhile, with the wreck of his fortune, and by the aid of my grandfather, bought the small estate of Newgate,—there he resided for some years; this little property he was at length constrained to sell to my above grandfather, when he removed to Kirkwall, in the Orkney Islands, where he died in the capacity of an hostler at an inn about the middle of last century,—or, as stated by Earl James in his Memoirs, in 1744, aged about eighty years—a landless outcast, yet unquestionably *de jure* 'Lord the Lyndisay,' as representative of David the third, and of Ludovic the sixteenth Earls of Crawford. * * Edzell had two sisters, both of them, I believe, left early motherless,—the eldest named Margaret, remembered in tradition as 'the proud Lady of Edzell,' and married to Watson of Aitherny, the representative of an ancient and opulent family in Fifeshire, which was ruined through her extravagance—the youngest, Janet, a lovely and graceful girl, whose fate throws a shade of still deeper sadness over the darkening fortunes of her house. She fell a victim to the arts of the younger son of a noble Scottish family, who ruined and deserted her.

* * A daughter was the fruit of this ill-omened love,—of whom descendants still exist in England; and the faithless lover left the country, and was killed at the battle of Almanza, in Spain, in 1707. The circumstances of the last Edzell's 'flitting' are still remembered in the neighbourhood, and I give them in the simple but impressive words of local tradition:— 'The Laird, like his father, had been a wild and wasteful man, and had been long away,'—he was deeply engaged with the unsuccessful party of the Stuarts, and the rumours of their defeat were still occupying the minds of all the country-side. One afternoon, the poor Baron with a sad and sorrowful countenance and heavy heart, and followed by only one of a his company, both on horseback, came to the castle, almost unnoticed by any. Everything was silent; he gaed into his great big house, a solitary man—there was no wife or child to give him welcome, for he had never been married. The castle was almost deserted,—a few old servants had been the only inhabitants for many months. Neither the Laird nor his faithful follower took any rest that night. Lindsay the broken-hearted ruined man, sat all that night in the large hall, sadly occupied,—destroying papers sometimes, reading papers sometimes, sometimes writing, sometimes sitting mournfully silent—unable to fix his thoughts on the present or to contemplate the future. In the course of the following day he left the castle in the same manner in which he had come,—he saw none of his people or tenants; his one attendant only accompanied him,—they rode away, taking with them as much of what was valuable or useful as they could conveniently carry. And, turning round to take a last look of the old towers, he drew a last long sigh, and wept. He was never seen here again.'—Year after year passed away, and the castle fell to ruin,—the banner rotted

on the keep—the roofs fell in—the pleasure became a wilderness—the summer-house fell to decay—the woods grew wild and tangled—the dogs died about the place, and the name of the old proprietors was seldom mentioned, when a lady one day arrived at Edzell, as it is still related, in her own coach, and drove to the castle. She was tall and beautiful, and dressed in deep mourning. 'When she came near the ancient burying-place,' says the same faint voice of the past, 'she alighted, and went into the chapel, for it was then open,—the doors had been driven down, the stone figures and carved work was all broken, and bones lay scattered about. The poor lady went in, and sat down among it a', and wept sore at the ruin of the house and the fate of her family, for no one doubted of her being one of them, though no one knew who she was or where she came from. After a while she came out, and was driven in the coach up to the castle; she went through as much of it as she could, for stairs had fallen down and roofs had fallen in,—and in one room in particular she stayed a long while, weeping sadly. She said the place was very dear to her, though she had now no right to it, and she carried some of the earth away with her.'—It was Margaret of Edzell, the Lady of Aitherny, as ascertained by an independent tradition derived from a venerable lady of the house of Aitherny, who lived to a great age, and always spoke of her with bitterness as 'the proud bird out of the eagle's nest' who had ruined her family. 'She came once to my father's house,' said she to my informant, 'with two of her children. She was on her way to Edzell Castle. It was years since it had passed away from her family. My father did all he could to persuade her from so waeft a journey, but go she would; and one morning she set off alone, leaving her children with us to await her return. She was a sair changed woman when she came back—her haughty manner was gone, and her proud look turned into sadness. She had found everything changed at Edzell since she left it, a gay lady, the bride of Aitherny. For the noise and merriment of those days, she found silence and sadness,—for the many going to and fro, solitude and mouldering walls,—for the plentiful board of her father, his house only, roofless and deserted. When she looked out from the windows, it was the same gay and smiling landscape, but all within was ruin and desolation. She found her way to what had been in former days her own room, and there, overcome with the weight of sorrow, she sat down and wept for a long time,—she felt herself the last of all her race, for her only brother was gone, no one could tell where. She came back to Gardrum the next day, and she just lived to see the ruin of Aitherny, which her extravagance and folly had brought on, for the Laird was a good-natured man and could deny her nothing. They both died, leaving their family in penury.'—And such was the end of the 'proud house of Edzell'!

It is long since we have read a story more "musically haunting" than the above. To begin, within limits like ours, with any new scenes or characters would impair its effect; and here, therefore, we pause for the second time. Should we be prevented from returning to these 'Lives' for a third gleaming, that which has been harvested will amply make good our character of the book as one abounding in various interest,—and which would have been "after the own heart" of the Romancer and Historian of Abbotsford!

Botany considered in Reference to the Arts of Design. By W. H. Harvey, M.D. London, Reeve & Co.

WHETHER we adopt the theory that Art is an absolute imitation of the beauty which exists in nature, or that of its consisting merely in the making evident to others the beauty which the artist himself perceives in his contemplation of nature—all are, at any rate, agreed that the forms with which Art has to deal should be founded on those which nature presents. But, although there is an almost universal admission of this, there has yet been but little systematic

effort made to render the natural-history sciences subservient to Art. With many minds the cultivation of Science and that of Art seem to be in effect dissociated:—the latter conveying the notion of something opposed to the former. When, however, we come to look more closely into the two, we find that however much the man of science may dispense with Art, it is impossible for Art to dispense with Science. Science comprehends an enlarged knowledge of the materials which the artist is constantly engaged in representing; and as the labourer must be a better workman the better he understands the properties of the substances on which he works, so must the artist fulfil his mission best who has the largest knowledge of these objects of his study. Those of the class who are occupied with the delineation of human forms have to a certain extent recognized the importance of the principle; our most successful painters and sculptors having followed the anatomist and physiologist in their careful analysis of the human frame. There are, however, many other departments of natural science which will amply repay cultivation by the artist: and of all branches of knowledge which might be successfully cultivated in relation to Art there is none that would yield a more abundant harvest than the study of plants,—while none has been more neglected.

For this reason it is, that we call attention to Dr. Harvey's Address introductory to a course of lectures on botany now delivering by him before the Royal Society of Dublin. In this he forcibly points out the advantages of the study of the science in question in reference to Art. Speaking, for instance, of the relation of botany to landscape painting, he says:—

"I think I am not unreasonable in insisting that it is the duty of the artist to study congruity in the vegetable forms, he brings together; to place every plant in a natural situation; and to imitate the general outline of plants correctly. Some knowledge of Botany is required to enable him to do so with confidence, and the greater his acquaintance with the science, the greater will be his capacity for imparting *variety* to his scenes, without trenching on their truth to nature. But when the artist has to compose a group of small extent where a few figures are represented of a large size, in a limited space, so near the eye of the spectator that every feature and emotion of the countenance is a part of the picture, then, whether it be a sylvan or a garden scene, there cannot be too faithful a representation of surrounding objects. The simple trunk of a tree has its character—varying with the species: the *stem* of the oak, of the pine, of the beech, or of the birch, each has its own peculiar surface to be studied by the artist: not to speak of the widely different ramification and foliage of those trees. And so, also, and in a greater degree, of the small plants in the foreground. The commonest way-side weeds have a picturesque character. But how seldom do we see a bramble or a wild-rose naturally represented; or even a thistle, or a dock. The things that figure in many modern pictures for brambles or roses (where the artist is so far ambitious as to attempt a *definite* representation of them) have no prototype in nature; and would simply remind us of the ornaments of Christabel's chamber, which were

All cut out of the carver's brain,
save that they are deficient in the grace and delicacy of the quaint fancies described by the poet. Surely we want a Wilkie or a Teniers for our woods and hedges—to picture faithfully the wildlings of nature. If a stable-yard and a village ale-house can be refined into a graceful picture, how much more might the thousand picturesque nooks of our island supply subjects to the artist, who would be contented to study them *minutely*, and still with *freedom*, not in the servility of a mere copyist. Even a subject so homely as the garden of the sluggard, where

—the wild briar,
The thorn and the thistle grew broader and higher,
painted with *botanical* truth, and in a genial spirit, would form no bad picture."

The truth of these remarks will be felt by all who have examined with the slightest amount of botanical knowledge the pictures of many of our modern artists. How many of these just now before the public might be pointed out as betraying a want not only of what might be called botanical knowledge, but of even the slightest observation, of the object painted! Let us see how a botanist looks at these pictures. Dr. Harvey refers to an engraving published in the *Art-Union Journal* for October 1848.—

"It is a picture of Oberon and Titania, illustrating a scene in the Midsummer Night's Dream. Of course, I shall only speak of the *botanical* part of the artist's work; and here I think his sins are of a twofold nature—against *truth* and against *congruity*. Against *truth*, in the distorted leafy branch, brought very prominently into the left-hand corner of the picture. It is difficult to say for *what* the artist intended it. I take it for *jessamine*, because the leaves are *opposite* and *pinnately divided*; but there are no *flowers* of jessamine visible in the picture. The leaf stalks are most unnaturally twisted, and the whole branch can only be regarded as a *fancy* portrait. The sin against *congruity* is, in an artistic point of view, of a graver character. It consists in introducing as the *chief* floral ornament of the picture, a *garden flower* of modern culture, unknown in the days of Shakspeare, and having no conceivable connection with the subject of the piece. The bower of the Fairy Queen is actually composed chiefly of *Fuchsia*, whose bells are hanging round her, as if the artist thought that Shakspeare's bank

Quite over-canopied with lush woodbine,
With sweet musk roses and with eglantine,
was too old-fashioned, or too vulgar, for modern refinement."

Nor let it be supposed that a superficial knowledge on such subjects is sufficient to the artist. The formation of the leaves and stems of flowers, and of their various highly-coloured and beautiful parts, is dependent on laws as definite as those of any other department of nature:—and by a knowledge of these alone can a full perception be given of the true beauty and harmony of the vegetable world.

Indispensable, however, as a knowledge of the forms of the vegetable kingdom is in the higher branches of Art, in the minor arts of decoration its cultivation is of yet greater and more direct and obvious value. Man early availed himself of the vegetable kingdom for patterns for embroidery, for the ornamenting of drinking vessels, candelabra, &c.; and the early architects made no sparing use of plants,—imitating them not only in their leading forms but also in their minor details.—

"To the modeller in metals, and the carver in wood and ivory, the vegetable kingdom has contributed a long list of patterns. The bare enumeration of them would be wearisome, and also unnecessary: for we can hardly cast our eyes about any well-furnished room without encountering some of the old, conventional types of the class, such as the ivy, the oak and acorn, the olive, the lily, the rose, and many others. One might wish, however, that modern artists would indulge us a little more liberally with new forms of plants with which modern cultivation has rendered us familiar. What graceful silver cream-jugs might not be modelled from the pitchers of the Nephentes, with their classical contour and proportion; while a large number of our green-house and stove plants have flowers suitable for flagree work, or other ornamental manufactures."

Who has not wondered at the coarse and false imitations of flowers that display themselves on our muslins, our calicoes, our wall-papers, &c.? We have spoken to intelligent calico-printers, paper-makers, and others on these matters; and they say that flowers painted after nature will not sell—that it is only arrangements of colour and form which are independent of any natural resemblance that please. This we do not believe:—and we are glad to find

Dr. Harvey defending true taste in the matter, as well as pointing out the real source of the want of success in the attempts hitherto made to follow nature.—

"I would speak of the importance of a knowledge of Botany to the inventors of flower patterns; whether for muslin, for damask, or for wall papers. It is most certain that true taste will prefer the pattern which most nearly represents the natural flowers, with all their peculiarities of form, and in their true colours. The stems in nature may be stiff and angular: if they be so, it is vain to attempt in the pattern to give them graceful bends, and to hope, by so doing, to please the eye. To represent branches of hawthorn flowers on the twining stems of a convolvulus would be monstrously absurd. And yet faults as glaring are frequently committed by ignorant draftsman, when they attempt the composition of floral patterns. Of course I am not now speaking of the combinations of '*fancy flowers*,' blossoms that exist wholly in the brain of the calico-printer or the paper-stainer—these may be as fantastic as you please. But I speak of the unnatural distortion of real flowers, resulting from ignorance of the proper proportion and number of their parts. Why is it that floral patterns on wall papers are out of fashion? or are driven up to the bed-rooms on the third landing, or to the back parlour of the country inn?—It is not, surely, that *flowers* are out of fashion; or that the taste for them is less general than it was formerly. But it is that the *taste* of the public is not properly ministered to: it has outrun that of the manufacturer. In a rude state of education, bright colours and gracefully bended branches on the walls will please the eye that does not stop to question their propriety. But as refinement increases, truth in form will be preferred to brilliancy in colour, and the twining of branches that is not natural will be no longer thought graceful. It will be no longer regarded as a *twining* but a *twisting*—perverting nature for a false effect. This is the true reason why floral patterns in wall papers are now so much out of favour, and why, when selecting the paper for a room, one is forced (I speak from experience), after turning over books of patterns till you are weary, to take refuge in some arabesque design—some combination of graceful curves of no meaning—as an escape from the frightful compositions that are called flower patterns. It is surely high time that our manufacturers should seek to correct this evil. These are not days in which any one can afford to be left a step behind the rest of the world. He that once loses his place in the foremost rank, is pushed aside and lost in the crowd that is eagerly pressing forward, and almost treading on his heels. Already French wall-papers are rapidly coming into use. They have brought down the prices of the home-manufacture considerably, and they will undoubtedly drive home-made papers out of the market altogether if the manufacturers do not exert themselves to produce more artistic patterns than they commonly originate at present. The French have been before us in the establishment of *Schools of Design*. At their schools *Artistic Botany*, or correct flower drawing, is regularly taught; and hence the great superiority of their flower patterns, whether on china, on silk, on muslin, or on wall papers. It is not that French *taste* is superior to Irish or English taste; but it is that, in France, the principles of correct taste are more diffused among the class engaged in executing ornamental designs. Our workmen have as much inventive talent, but it requires to be educated. At present it wastes itself for want of proper direction and instruction."

This is a subject to which we hope to see daily more attention given. It especially addresses itself to our manufacturers and free-traders. If Great Britain is to maintain her manufacturing character amongst the nations, it will now be necessary not only that her manufactured products shall exhibit all the physical excellence of which they are capable, but also that this shall be accompanied by an equivalent exhibition of artistic skill.

Western America, including California and Oregon; with Maps of those Regions and of the "Sacramento Valley." By Charles Wilkes, U.S.N. Philadelphia, Lea & Co.; London, Wiley.

Notes of Travel in California. From the Official Reports of Col. Fremont and Major Emory. New York, Appleton & Co.; London, Wiley.

FROM the western sea-board of the Atlantic still rings the peal of triumph. *El Dorado* is found. Even the sceptical are convinced. The first-fruits of the gold region have been brought in. The imported metal has been assayed and pronounced of remarkable purity. The tide of emigration has set in on a scale of grandeur worthy of the subject,—and every art is being exhausted to facilitate transits. Had Mexico not been so completely crushed in the late war, it is generally believed in the United States that she would have made some desperate attempt to secure her lost province, now that it is found to be of such great mineral value. This is no longer to be thought of:—but jealousy of race is reported as strong at the "diggings." The semi-Spaniards of the adjacent provinces have all the Spaniard's lust of gold with very little of the chivalric sentiment which once did something towards redeeming it. The United States are far away; and succour, in case of need, would be nearly half a year in getting from New York to the Bay of San Francisco. Men in Washington are beginning to turn their attention to these facts. They find, to quote their own words, that if they "are to keep California, it must be brought within twenty days' journey of the inhabited parts of the United States."

This conviction has led to a renewal of the long talked of railway over the Peninsula of Panama. An engineering corps has been sent out from New York to make surveys and calculations; and the last advices from that city report their return with plans and specifications. It is said that the difficulties are not great,—that the expense will be trifling,—and that the work may be finished in two years. A million of dollars is the sum named,—and the stock is already in the market. This looks like earnest. If the design be carried out, eastern commerce will be vastly indebted to the discoveries in California.

The two works named at the head of this article contain a great portion of the best information which we as yet possess on Western America. Mr. Wilkes, whose voluminous and important report of the Exploring Expedition which he commanded on the north-western coast in the years 1838—43 is known to our readers, is the author of the first. At the time when his great work was written Oregon and California were not American territory; consequently many of the facts and observations which had been collected were set aside as deficient in national interest. But time has wrought his accustomed marvels. The lands of such unimportance a few years ago not only are now incorporated with the Union, but have become the centre of its chief attraction. Mr. Wilkes has therefore been induced to rewrite his account of these two countries; working into the body of his text the complete mass of material which the Expedition had placed at his disposal—some of it not formerly used by him. The result is, a sober and scientific description; lacking the picturesque details and romantic adventures which the reader has learnt to expect in the records of forest life,—but of the utmost value to the emigrant and the politician.—The second of these works consists of a reprint of various official reports on the

province of California: namely, Col. Fremont's 'Geographical Memoir,' Major Emory's 'Narrative of a Military Tour,' and Col. Fremont's 'Narrative of the Exploring Expeditions to the Rocky Mountains in the year 1842 and to Oregon and California in the years 1843—4.' All these documents are official:—it is enough for us to add that they are here reprinted in a cheap and convenient form.

The country to which these works relate, and even the "great discovery" itself, have an interest for us and our readers of a moral and ethnological rather than of a political kind. It is something to have a new experiment in colonization tried under conditions which enable us to trace its every phase and feature. The progress of this new settlement may help us to solve some of the problems of our history,—the great enigma of the world's past life. It is curious to watch the collision of savagery and civilization,—to see how that "order" which is a habit of settled existence rather than an instinct of nature can defend itself against the assault of the fiercest and most reckless of the passions. There is no established law in the land of gold,—if there were, there is as yet no organized power to make it respected; and we have seen from Mr. Brooke's statement that the level of morality is not high among the fortune hunters. Yet, order is maintained to a certain extent. Few outrages have till recently been committed. Without the machinery of justice, the power of the law is substantially asserted in the midst of temptations nowhere else existing in equal strength. And this result is obtained by casting off the formal and orderly restraints of civilization, and reverting to means which in ancient Greece produced similar effects. California is now under the code of Draco. Every crime is punished with death:—murder, assault, theft, all offences are treated as of equal magnitude. This remark, however, must be understood as applying only to the relations of the Americans among themselves. To the native and the foreigner these colonists observe no law. Indians have been killed on the emigrant trails in great numbers,—and a party of the miners have slaughtered a number of Chilians who wished to come in for their share of the good things of the Valley of the Sacramento. The Governor himself has declared by proclamation that foreigners cannot henceforth work the mines. This seems an extraordinary measure when it is remembered that the constitution of the "States" avowedly opens its arms to receive the outcasts of all nations without distinction. To point out the consequences of such a measure, however, is no part of our duty.

To us, the most interesting part of these narratives is that which treats of the native races, now fast disappearing from the scene. The conquest and cession of California will be to them yet more disastrous than to their Spanish fellow-subjects. The Apaches, a gallant race inhabiting the shores and valleys of the eastern sea-board, had in great measure recovered from their ancient degradation,—and for many years past had levied blackmail on their former oppressors. We have already borrowed from Mr. Edwards [see *Ath.* No. 1094] a passage illustrative of the fear of the Apache entertained by the Californian:—let us here add a paragraph from Major Emory's report, which will amply account for the vindictiveness of the aborigines.—

"Jan. 2.—Six and a-half miles march brought us to the deserted mission of San Luis Rey. The keys of this mission were in charge of the alcalde of the Indian village, a mile distant. He was at the door to receive us and deliver up possession. There we halted for the day, to let the sailors, who suffered

dreadfully from sore feet, recruit a little. This building is one which, for magnitude, convenience and durability of architecture, would do honour to any country. The walls are adobe, and the roofs of well-made tile. It was built about sixty years since by the Indians of the country, under the guidance of a zealous priest. At that time the Indians were very numerous, and under the absolute sway of the missionaries. These missionaries at one time bid fair to Christianize the Indians of California. Under grants from the Mexican Government, they collected them into missions, built immense houses, and commenced successfully to till the soil by the hands of the Indians for the benefit of the Indians. The habits of the priests, and the avarice of the military rulers of the territory, however, soon converted these missions into instruments of oppression and slavery of the Indian race. The revolution of 1836 saw the downfall of the priests, and most of these missions passed by fraud into the hands of private individuals, and with them the Indians were transferred as serfs of the land. This race, which, in our country, has never been reduced to slavery, is in that degraded condition throughout California, and do the only labour performed in the country. Nothing can exceed their present degraded condition. For negligence or refusal to work, the lash is freely applied, and in many instances life has been taken by the Californians without being held accountable by the laws of the land."

In that part of the memoir devoted to the aborigines Mr. Wilkes quotes largely from the valuable Report of Mr. Hale; which is quite unknown to the general reader,—as a hundred copies only were struck off by Congress, for the great public libraries. From this store we add a passage or two of interest. Here we see some of the causes which set nations wandering in the infancy of civilization.—

"The Indians west of the Rocky Mountains seem to be, on the whole, inferior to those east of that chain. In stature, strength and activity, they are much below them. Their social organization is more imperfect. The two classes of chiefs, those who preside in time of peace, and those who direct the operations of war,—the ceremony of initiation for the young men,—the distinction of clans or totems,—and the various important festivals which exist among the eastern tribes, are unknown to those of Oregon. Their conceptions on religious subjects are of a lower cast. It is doubtful if they have any idea of a Supreme Being. The word for *God* was one of those originally selected for the vocabulary, but it was found impossible, with the assistance of the missionaries, and of interpreters well skilled in the principal languages, to obtain a proper synonym for this term in a single dialect of Oregon. Their chief divinity is called the *Wolf*, and seems, from their descriptions, to be a sort of a compound being, half beast and half deity. The mode of life of the Oregon Indians, especially those of the interior, is so peculiar, that it is difficult to determine how it should be characterized. They have no fixed habitations, and yet they are not, properly speaking, a wandering people. Nearly every month in the year they change their place of residence,—but the same month of every year finds them regularly in the same place. The circumstances which have given rise to this course of life are the following:—1. The territory of Oregon abounds, beyond example, in esculent roots, of various kinds, which, without cultivation, grow in sufficient quantities to support a considerable population. More than twenty species, most of them palatable, and obtainable, generally with little labour, are found in the different parts of this territory. At certain seasons the natives subsist almost entirely upon them. As the different species come to maturity at different times, the people remove from one root-ground to another, according to the time when experience has taught them to look for a new crop.—2. Several kinds of fruits and berries are found, at certain seasons, in great abundance, and offer another cause for a temporary change of place.—3. At a particular period of the year, the salmon ascend the rivers to deposit their spawn, and then the Indians assemble in great numbers on the banks of the streams, for the purpose of taking them. Two months afterwards, the fish appear again, floating

in an exhausted condition down the current, and though by no means so agreeable for food, are yet taken in large quantities, principally for winter stores. These two seasons of fishing are the occasion of two removals.—4. The tribes of the interior depend, in part, for their clothing, on the buffalo skins which they obtain, either by barter or by hunting. And for both these purposes it is necessary for them to visit the region near the foot of the Rocky Mountains, frequented by that animal. This, however, does not, except with some of the Shoshonees, give rise to a general removal of the tribe, but merely an expedition of the principal men, their families being left, in the mean time, encamped in some place of safety. The tribes near the coast remove less frequently than those of the interior. Some of them spend the summer on the sea shore, and the winter in a sheltered nook on the banks of an inland stream. Others do not change their place of residence at all, but at the approach of summer they take down the heavy planks of which their winter habitations are made, bury them in the ground, where they will be out of the way of injury, and having put up a temporary dwelling of bark, brushwood and matting, feel no apprehensions at leaving it for two or three weeks at a time, to fish, hunt, collect roots, and gather fruit.

Here is a still lower race.—

"All the tribes north of the Columbia, except those of the first section, and some of the Wallawallas, belong to this division, as well as three or four to the south of that river. It includes the Carriers, Qualigouas, Tlatkanies, Umpquas, Sou-shwaps, Flat-heads, Chickeeles, Cowlitz, and Killamukes, with the Chinooks, the Yacones, and, in part, the Calapuyas. The Nootkas, and other tribes of Vancouver's Island, also belong to it. The people of this division are among the ugliest of their race. They are below the middle size, with squat, clumsy forms, very broad faces, low foreheads, lank black hair, wide mouths, and a coarse rough skin, of a tanned, or dingy copper complexion. This description applies more particularly to the tribes of the coast. Those of the interior (the Carriers, Sou-shwaps and Selish), are of a better cast, being generally of the middle height, with features of a less exaggerated harshness. In the coast tribes, the opening of the eye has very frequently the oblique direction proper to the Mongol physiognomy; but in the others this peculiarity is less common. The intellectual and moral characteristics of these natives are not more pleasing than the physical. They are of moderate intelligence, coarse and dirty in their habits, indolent, deceitful and passionate. They are rather superstitious than religious, and greatly addicted to gambling. All these disagreeable qualities are most conspicuous in the tribes near the mouth of the Columbia, and become less marked as we advance into the interior, and towards the north. It is also at the same point (the mouth of the Columbia) that the custom of compressing the head prevails to the greatest extent. The Chinooks are the most distinguished for their attachment to this singular usage, and from them it appears to have spread on every side, to the Chickeeles on the north, the Wallawallas and Nez-perces on the east, and the Killamukes and Calapuyas on the south; the degree of distortion diminishing as we recede from the centre. It is not a little singular that all the tribes of this division (except the Calapuyas, who seem to hold a middle position) speak languages which, though of distinct families, are all remarkable for the extreme harshness of their pronunciation; while those of the division which follows, are, on the contrary, unusually soft and harmonious."

This description suggests several points for reflection:—such, for instance, as the coincident development of the moral, mental and material being. But we must avoid this tempting theme. In conclusion, Mr. Hale conjectures that—

"If we might suppose that the hordes, which, at different periods, overran the Mexican plateau, had made their way through this territory, we might conclude that the numerous small tribes there found were the scattered remnants of these wandering nations, left along their line of march, as they advanced from the frozen regions of the north into the southern plains. This conjecture acquires some weight

from two facts, which, though of a dissimilar character, both bear upon this point. The first is, that such a progress is now going on, particularly in the interior plains, where, according to the testimony of the most respectable traders and hunters, all the tribes are slowly proceeding towards the south. The Shoshonees formerly inhabited the country of the Blackfeet, and there are old men among the former who are better acquainted with the defiles and secret passes of that country than the Blackfeet themselves. At the same period, the territory east of the Salt Lake, now occupied by the Shoshonees, was in possession of the Bonnaks, who have been thrust by them partially into the south-west desert. This movement is easily explained, as resulting from the superior energy and prowess of the northern tribes, together with the general desire of attaining a more fertile country and genial climate. The other circumstance alluded to, is the singular manner in which tribes speaking allied languages are dispersed over this territory, in a direction from north to south. Taking, for example, the Selish family, we have the Sou-shwaps on Frazer's River, and at Friendly Village, in lat. 53° 30'; the Flat-heads and Pichons on the Upper Columbia; the Nisqually about Puget's Sound; the Cowlitz and Chickeeles beyond them; and a single tribe, the Killamukes, quite separate from the rest, south of the Columbia, below 45° N."

We can recommend these works to such of our readers as desire to have precise information on California and Oregon,—and have no fear of blue-books. They are replete with information interesting to the geographer and the politician.

Criminal Returns for 1848.—Presented to Parliament 1849.

This publication is one of the most important which emanate annually from Government:—for it exhibits the progress of crime amongst the population of England and Wales, and at the same time shows the amount of education of the criminals.

The number of persons committed for trial for various offences during the last five years has been:—

	1844	1845	1846	1847	1848
For life	26,542	24,303	25,107	26,835	30,349
1844	26,542	24,303	25,107	26,835	30,349
1845	26,542	24,303	25,107	26,835	30,349
1846	26,542	24,303	25,107	26,835	30,349
1847	26,542	24,303	25,107	26,835	30,349
1848	26,542	24,303	25,107	26,835	30,349

And the number on which sentences have been passed appears by the following table.—

	1844	1845	1846	1847	1848
Death	57	49	56	51	60
Transportation:					
For life	180	79	101	46	67
Above 15 years ..	50	22	29	30	29
15 y. and above 10 y.	543	405	392	230	291
10	1,126	1,119	946	769	843
7 years	1,421	1,273	1,407	1,731	2,022
Imprisonment:					
Above 3 years ..	1	—	—	—	—
3 y. and above 2 y.	13	5	2	—	6
2	454	360	328	455	513
1	1,927	1,654	1,933	2,355	2,648
6 months and under	12,574	12,035	12,635	15,499	16,066
Whipped, fined, and discharged ..	506	398	372	373	404
	18,912	17,397	18,135	21,542	22,890

The ages of those committed during the above five years were as follows.—

	1844	1845	1846	1847	1848
Under 15 years ..	1,596	1,549	1,640	1,767	1,087
15 and under 20 years ..	6,190	5,850	6,136	6,967	7,232
20	6,399	5,881	5,826	6,625	7,637
25	3,924	3,471	3,655	4,209	4,672
30	4,079	3,805	3,972	4,823	5,099
40	2,202	1,987	2,120	2,464	2,610
50	1,049	874	839	1,033	1,040
60 and above ..	524	418	456	529	530
Not ascertained ..	579	468	413	417	442

The instruction of the offenders has been without much variation; exhibiting on a comparison of the last ten years a decreased proportion of those entirely uninstructed. The numbers committed in 1848 falling under the following definitions were:—

	Males.	Females.
Unable to read and write	7,530	2,161
Able to read and write imperfectly ..	13,950	3,161
Able to read and write well	2,634	350
Instruction superior to reading and writing well	76	5
Instruction not ascertained	396	86

And the centesimal proportion compared with those in the preceding four years was.—

	1844.	1845.	1846.	1847.	1848.
Unable to read and write	29.77	30.61	30.66	31.30	31.93
Able to read and write imperfectly ..	59.28	58.34	59.51	58.80	58.29
Able to read and write well	8.12	8.58	7.71	7.79	9.63
Instruction superior to reading and writing well ..	0.42	0.37	0.34	0.28	0.27
Instruction not ascertained	2.41	2.30	1.78	1.65	1.19

The increase in crime during 1848 extended over all the northern and north-midland counties. In the great mineral district—comprising Cumberland, Northumberland and Durham—it amounted to 13 per cent. In the populous counties of Lancashire and Yorkshire, the chief seats of the cotton and woollen manufactures, the increase was respectively 9.3 per cent. and 13.5 per cent. In Cheshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, and Leicestershire the commitments exhibit an increase of 15.8 per cent., and passing southwards into the counties of Stafford, Warwick, and Worcester, the same rate of increase continues:—thus embracing all the great northern and north-midland counties of England.

Of the eastern agricultural counties, Lincoln, Norfolk, and Suffolk, each exhibit a slight decrease of commitments.—Essex an increase; the aggregate of the four counties showing a trifling increase. Of the lesser midland agricultural counties, in Cambridge, Bucks and Oxford the commitments slightly decreased; in Huntingdon, Northampton, Bedford, Hertford and Berks there was an increase; and the aggregate of the eight counties prove an increase of 8.3 per cent.

The continuous increase of commitments in Middlesex which characterized former years happily does not hold with respect to the past year:—there being a decrease of nearly 6 per cent. In Surrey, also, there is a decrease, though only nominal in amount. In Kent, a large proportion of the population of which is connected with the metropolis, there is, on the contrary, an increase amounting to 14.7 per cent.

In the agricultural districts of the south and west a trifling increase appears on the commitments. In Hants, Wilts, and Gloucester (including the city of Bristol), the decrease has been 2.5 per cent. In Sussex there is a trifling increase. Of the four western counties there has been a decrease in three.—Somersetshire forming the exception; but the aggregate of the commitments remains the same. In North Wales an increase of small amount appears. In South Wales the increase has been considerable, particularly in Glamorganshire; and on the district it reaches to 25 per cent. The increase has also been common to the border counties of Shropshire, Herefordshire, and Monmouthshire,—and amounts to 14.5 per cent. in the three counties. The only districts which can, therefore, be exempted from the general increase of commitments during the past year are the counties in the extreme east and west of England,—and in a more marked degree the metropolitan county.

We are glad to perceive a diminished proportion of females amongst the commitments during the past year. In 1846 the proportion of women was 26.5 to 100 men,—in 1847, 25.9 to 100 men,—and in 1848, 23.1 to 100 men.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Woodman. By G. P. R. James.—3 vols.—Unless our memory fail us—as is quite probable in the matter of Mr. James's books—this is by no means the first Romance in which that writer has "taken to the woods." Nevertheless, he starts in its first chapter with the *capriole* of one breaking into a fresh domain, and having spirits adequate to cope with all that it presents. He assures his readers that they shall not be stinted of as much moonlight as their picturesque hearts can desire,—that he is about to get up a nunnery for them as truly conventional as though Poole had painted it,—that his *factotum* the Woodman shall outdo *Hercules* in strength and *Antimachus* in slyness,—that never was there such a beauty as the Lady Iola his heroine and never such a gallant as the Lord Chartley her suitor. To reduce our

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figure into the forms of strict fact, on no former occasion has Mr. James been more perpetually and complacently present in his individuality to the reader than in this effort:—and our readers know very well that that is saying a great deal. As sedulous as *Alice* in the well-known poet's distich,—no matter which of his *dramatis personæ* is called, *he*, Mr. James, is sure to come: now, to comment on his own wonderful skill as a puppet maker,—now, to put his own saws and similes into the mouths of his wooden creations. The feeling finally arising out of this surfeit of axioms and moralities everywhere introduced is, that it is not really a show of the times of "crook-backed" Richard that is offered for our acceptance,—but the 'Whole Duty of Man' or the 'Golden Treasury' arranged by Mr. James in the pretty form of a fiction to meet the requisitions of Mr. Newby's customers. Notwithstanding this double dose of prosiness and self-sufficiency,—made more offensive by the flippant carelessness of the manufacture,—'The Woodman' is yet full of spirit, bustle, and the familiar stage incidents, stage perils and stage suspenses which have a wonderful power to entertain, their venerable age considered. Character, of course, there is none,—but then none was expected from Mr. James: and indeed it is many a day since character has retired from the chambers of fiction—so far at least as English romancers are concerned. With all their faults, and in spite of their prodigious fertility, the De Balzacs, Dumas's and Sues of France have not yet lost the power of presenting us with individualities as well as with incidents.—Since writing the above, we have seen a contemporary announcement that this 'Woodman' is to be Mr. James's last fiction. The leave-takings of romancers are fickle things—as our readers know; and there seems no present reason why Mr. James should not follow the usages sanctioned by those of his "Mystery,"—and even if the rumour adverted to be well founded, continue saying "Good night! until to-morrow."

The Rectory Guest. By the Author of 'The Gambler's Wife.'—Sybil Lennard, &c. 3 vols.—We have had reason on former occasions to deprecate the tone of colour and the quality of subject preferred by the author of 'The Gambler's Wife,' &c. 'The Rectory Guest' is no less dismal than its predecessors. The amiable family of a Country Clergyman finding it expedient to take a boarder, are darkly surprised by the appearance of a beautiful, woo-begone, despairing young Lady, who comes they scarcely know whence and mourns they have little idea why. Presently, however, it becomes obvious that she belongs to the *gens* Sinner rather than to that of Septie,—that she is the victim and the origin of many painful mysteries. She throws out gloomy hints, and is found acting in more than one extraordinary scene,—till even the most ecstatic virtue and the most indulgent patience in real bystander must have given way. But virtue and patience in an old play or in a modern novel yield to no discouragement,—have neither stint nor limit. The pastor urges Miss Marcia Norton to make "a clear breast" of her iniquity and the distress therefrom accruing; and the Lady, having that love for pen and ink which from the days of Harriet Byron downwards has been such a resource to novelists,—instead of narrating her crimes and their punishment, writes them in a MS. as neatly, coherently and romantically as if she had meant at once and openly to confess to Mr. Newby without the aid or profit of ghostly mediation. She turns out to have been wicked indeed,—to have indulged in "envy, hatred, malice, and all uncharitableness" with a subtle and refined success that *Jago's* critical self could have found little fault with. It appears that she only became jealous of her twin sister; and (to speak compendiously, without lifting the veil from the lineaments of sin so as to forestal the sin-fancier's pleasure) ultimately thwarted her happiness in the completest manner possible. Crime so poetical as Marcia Norton's should have been dealt with in courts of justice no less poetical. Such an unnatural sister ought, by all the rights and wrongs of Romance, to have perished by a certain laudanum-bottle that our novelists vote—or to have taken leave of an outraged world by poor *Ophelia's* watery way. Instead of this, she makes a very good match: for the pattern clergyman who is sure to be found in all the novels of this school is *new. con.* the best match in the book,—the most pleasing as well as the most saintly personage.

Her poor wronged sister has to make the best of a hard bargain. Nevertheless, with all its faults and all its conventionalisms (and these are as abundant in the *broken heart* as in the *silver fork* school of novels), 'The Rectory Guest' has the merit of keeping curiosity alive.

Letters on the Manners and Customs of the English. By Mrs. Whitaker. — Mrs. Whitaker announces herself to be a French dancing mistress resident in London, with a good "connexion;" having not the slightest feeling of ill-will towards either England "or the English!"—dear, magnanimous lady! Her freedom from ill-will she proves in seventy pages in which the abuse is outdone only by the folly. Let any one desiring to study a new "fancy dance" of absurdity, try "Whitaker's Rant." Our author's steps are all her own. She "shows up" her pupils as a mistress of the art should,—considers Shakspeare to be not endurable till translated into French—flourishes her fiddle-stick against the London Clubs with "a fling" equal to one of Mistress Maury's own—insults John Bull for his want of common sense,—and demolishes the "Daughters of England," all and sundry, in a way to make many a mother, aunt, *chaperone*, and governess shake in her shoes with demure displeasure. She "does for" our social morals, too, in a like original fashion; asserting that "the reason why the English are so fond of going over to the Continent" is—that they may dance on Sundays!—A page or two later, however, *Madame* Whitaker dances herself into a comical contradiction. It is *Mistress and Miss Bull* only, she says, who are dancing mad. The English woman's Master is Bœotian and bovine,—averse to intellectual sport and rapid movement. His wife and daughters suffer in health, spirits and virtue because they are not allowed to frequent *Casinos* and the festivities of *Cremorne*:—in other words, to snatch the grace of every given opportunity for dancing with every body. But *John* is a very *John Brute*: goes at the sport doggedly,—abandons it at an early period,—and, deaf to *Madame's* assurance that "an intrepid dancer is a man who renders an essential service to his country," does his Patriotism not in the *Polka*, but in the Protectionist Forum or at a Chartist Convention.—Enough of this trash!—let us call another figure.

Linear Tables for facilitating the Calculations of Areas and Earthwork. By Arthur W. Forde. This is tabulation by curves, the results being taken off by the scale. It is, we believe, new as applied to this kind of engineers' work; but the "entire novelty of the system" of which Mr. Forde speaks cannot be maintained. In Margrett's longitude tables, for instance, published in the last century, there is given a double entry tabulation, by means of curves, of the corrections which bring out the true lunar distance from the observed. These longitude tables never came into use; and there has always been an indisposition to try graphical means for which we cannot fully account. Mr. Forde's curves would certainly be useful for everything but the most accurate determination from the most accurate measurements: in many less accurate measurements, it would be labour thrown away to perform calculation.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Arnold and Friessdorf's First German Book, 2nd ed. 12mo. 5s. 6d. cl.
Ash's E. J. Notes on the New Testament, Vol. 1, 12mo. 7s. cl.
Boy's Holiday Book, 2nd ed. 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl.
Bostwick's (M. F.) Popular Fallacies regarding General Interests, 1s. 6d.
Boudier's (Rev. T.) Few Words of Family Instruction, 8vo. 1s. 6d.
Bremer's (F.) The Home, Vol. II, 18mo. 1s. cl.
Burrill's (E.) Sparks from the Anvil, new ed. 12mo. 1s. 6d.
Bull's (Dr. T.) Hints to Mothers, 6th ed. 12mo. 1s. cl.
Clarke's Every Man his own Doctor, The Cold Water Cure, 8vo. 5s.
Council of Four (The) Edited by Arthur Wailbridge, new ed. 1s. 6d.
Corry's (S. T.) Confessions of an Inquiring Spirit, 6s. cl.
Curzon's Monasteries of the Levant, 2nd ed. post. 8vo. 15s. cl.
Day's (W.) How to Stop and When to Stop, 3th ed. 12mo. 1s. 6d. cl.
Etching Described, by a Practical Engraver, 12mo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Findlay's (R. G.) Junior Atlas of Modern Geography, new ed. 5s. h.f. bd.
Franklin, his Autobiography, by the Rev. H. Weid, 8vo. 14s. cl.
Gardner (Dr. W.) On the Gout, 8vo. 6s. cl.
Gosse's (P. R.) Illustrations of the Birds of Jamaica, plates, 36s. cl.
Handbook to the Lakes of Killarney, 6s. cl.
Hardy's (Rev. R. S.) Notices of the Holy Land, new ed. 16mo. 4s. cl.
Henry's (A.) The Rudiments of Botany, 16mo. 3s. 6d. cl.
Kings of England, 2nd ed. 6s. cl.
Knowles and Westcott's The Floral Cabinet, 3 vols. 4to. 3s. 3s. cl.
Lib. U. K. Youatt On the Horse, with Appendix by Spooner, new ed. 8s.
Macneil's Lord J. J. Notes of an Irish Tour, royal 16mo. 2s. cl.
Mason's (Prof. G.) Atlas of the Middle Ages, 8vo. 10s. cl.
Masmith's (A.) Researches on the Teeth, 8vo. 1s. 1s. cl.
O'Byrne's (W. R.) Naval Biographical Dictionary, 8vo. 2s. 2s. cl.
Owen (Prof.) On Parasitism, 8vo. 3s. cl.
Purcell's (Rev. A. G.) First Lessons for Singing Classes, 2s. 6d. 8vo.
Railway Library, Fauslaid's 'The Dutchman's Fireside,' 16mo. 1s. 6d.
Reynolds's (R.) The Professed Cook, 2nd ed. 8vo. 10s. 6d. cl.
Roche's (A.) Les Poëtes Français, new ed. 12mo. 6s. cl.
Taylor's (J.) The Great Exemplar, 3 vols. 6s. 13s. 6d. cl.
Trap to Catch a Unshame, 4th ed. 18mo. 1s. 6d.
Wiseman's Twelve Lectures on Science and Religion, 3rd ed. 16s. cl.

SENEX LOQUITUR.

You tell me you will do as good men did
Who trod this earth long since. What have they
done?

They laboured—true;—they dreamed; and some few
prayed,—

And fewer still, with pure resolved mind,
Wore out long, blameless, persevering lives
Teaching eternal truths, as they believed,
Love, Peace, Content to man.

—Alas! when age

Silvered their heads, and quenched those burning
hopes
Which lit their dreams in youth,—what saw they
then?

In place of happy things, and pastoral tales

Where corn and wine grew free for all alike,—

In place of brothers' love, of parents' care,

Respect in youth, wisdom in age,—they saw

(Mark this!) the bloody prints of conquerors' feet,

Man against man, realm against realm contending,

Hunger and Murder, Treachery, all abroad;

Each fighting for himself, and none beside;

All barbarous—as false, as full of hate

As when Cain stained the ground with brother's

blood,

And fled into the howling wilderness. C. L.

THE SERVANS IN HUNGARY.

[The following letter is from an old correspondent of the *Athenæum*,—but one who, it will be seen, is somewhat more of a friend to the cause of the Servians in their late quarrel with the Hungarians than we can pretend to be. To the cause of Servian development we are, we believe, as friendly as he; but we cannot persuade ourselves, as he seems to do, that the Magyar is not far ahead of the Servian in civilization. Nor, however the Hungarians may have erred on the side of oppression in the outset of this contest, can we conceal from ourselves that the Servians have suffered themselves to be made at its close mere tools in the hands of Austrian despotism.]

The nomination of a Voivode, or native ruler, of the 1,000,000 Servians who live in the dominions of the King of Hungary, and that by the reigning Emperor, is an event of such importance in the history of this people as deserves some notice at the present time—not without a retrospect to the past fortunes and misfortunes of the race.

But first let us take a glance at the physical geography of the territory which they inhabit. Following the course of the Danube from Vienna downwards, past Pesth, towards the Turkish frontier and the iron gates, two regions entirely distinct from each other in character and aspect lie to the right and left of the river. The wedge or angle between the Save and the Drave is mountainous, rugged, wooded, and vinicultural. Bacska and the Banat of Temesvar are flat, comparatively woodless—but possessing the richest soil. They may be called the granary not only of Hungary but of Vienna itself. This region is the seat of the civil war which has been recently carried on between the Magyars and the Servians. Although the district is thickly peopled with a warlike Servian population, and their trenches at Carlowitz and St. Thomas have never been stormed successfully, yet the important and impregnable fortress of Peterwardein still remains in possession of the Magyars in consequence of their having stepped into the imperial shoes in all that regards the jurisdiction exercised previous to the late revolution by the Vienna ministry of war.

It is, no doubt, well known to the reader that in the year 1395 the valour and enterprise of Amurath led him across the Balkan into the plains of Servia; where at the field of Kossovo (*Campus merularum*) Turk met Serb—and the monarchy of the latter was shattered in pieces, and became a fief of the Turkish empire. One hundred and forty-one years afterwards Hungary shared the same fate at Mohacs; and it was not until the war of 1684, after the unsuccessful attempt on Vienna, that Hungary was again freed from the Turk—and the immigration of 36,000 Servian families into Southern Hungary in 1690 was the foundation of this Greco-Slavic colony. This first war of liberation was terminated in 1699 by the treaty of Carlowitz. An eminence is pointed out on which a chapel to Mary the Pacific marked the place where the treaty was signed: and eighteen years later the battle of Peterwardein and the other

victories of Eugene added all the Banat of Temesvar and the greater part of Servia Proper to the dominions of the Emperor.

This at once opened to the Servian nation access to the education and civilization of Europe: for although Servia Proper was ultimately lost to Austria, yet Carlowitz, which was the seat of education on this side of the Save, remained in Imperial possession, and its pupils were destined in the lapse of a century more to be the ministers of state, the ministers of religion, and the schoolmasters to the principality of Servia Proper in its enfranchised state. The 36,000 fugitive families are now nearly 1,000,000 of souls, playing a most important part in the affairs of Hungary,—and now at length having a military governor of their own nation: but it has been by no small pains that they have arrived at this position. During the whole of the eighteenth century, up to the accession of the Emperor Joseph, the educational institutions of Austria were entirely under the influence of the Jesuits; and their grand object was to make these wild Greco-Servians enter the pale of European civilization through the portals of Jesuitism. Hence the efforts to build up what has been called the United Greek Church:—that is to say, that of the Greek Catholics who preserving the Oriental ritual acknowledge the supremacy of the Pope of the West. But these efforts had, comparatively speaking, little success. The great body of the people continued to acknowledge the patriarch of Constantinople as the sole head of the Oriental church and the sole tenant of apostolic succession; and as a matter of state policy the attempt on the part of the Jesuits to unite them to Austria by making Catholics of them was a complete failure. The most active person in this business was Kolonics, Primate of Hungary; at whose instigation the Jesuit Szent Iyvan wrote his celebrated work 'De Ortu et Progressu et Diminutione Schismatis Græci Ritus Ecclesiæ cum Romanâ Ecclesiâ tot votis exoptata Reunione.' One of the objects of this work was, to show that the difference between the two churches was very trifling except in the recognition of the head;—to which the Greeks answered, if there is such a slight difference why is there such anxiety to convert us? To aid the proselytism of the Jesuits, disabilities and disqualifications followed the Greeks into civil and military official dignities,—as was the case in Ireland with Catholics at the same period, and precisely with the same success in turning them from the error of their way. At length came the memorable year 1791, when the King of Hungary conceded Greek emancipation; empowering Greeks at once to hold lands in their own name,—and recognizing, in the following brief and expressive terms, their right to civil and religious liberty:—

"Sua regia apostolica Majestas sacratissima clementer annuere dignatur, ut Græci ritus non uniti regni incolæ in regno hoc jure civitatis donati, sublati in contrarium sanctis legibus, in quantum hæc ad Græci ritus non unitos se referunt, ad instar aliorum regnicolorum acquirendorum et possidendorum bonorum ac gerendorum omnium officiorum capaces in regno Hungariæ partibusque adnexis sint. Juribus ceteroquin regis Majestatis circa negotia clerici, ecclesiæ, religionis, ejus exercitum plene ipsi liberum erit, fundationum, studiorum, ac juventutis educationis, non minus privilegiorum ipsorum, quæ fundamentali regni constitutioni non adversantur, prout Majestas sacratissima a gloriose memoriæ majorebus suis accepit, ita eidem altèfatæ regis Majestati porro quoque in salvo relictis."

Since the recognition of the Greek religion in state affairs, it has been the policy of Austria to conciliate the clergy. The Archbishop of Carlowitz has always been a privy counsellor, and has formed the bridge between his Apostolic Majesty and the Greek clergy; but the antipathy of the rural Greek clergy to the Catholics is invincible, and has been greatly fostered and encouraged by the efforts which have been made to cram the Magyar language down their throats within the last twenty years. For, scarcely a quarter of a century elapsed after Greek emancipation and religious liberty were secured, when a new and a more formidable struggle ensued to defend civil liberty,—the progress of Servian nationality in constitutional Hungary forming a curious contrast to what was passing in the absolute Ottoman Empire. The victories of Cara Georg, from

1804 to 1813, shook the Ottoman power. A continuation of this success under Milosh still further confirmed the nationality of Servia; and the Porte, finding a re-subjugation of the country impossible, frankly accepted the nationality of Servia as an accomplished fact,—and, unable to make her a servant, has promoted her to the rank of a humble friend or friendly dependent. Hence the rapid progress of this principality in comfort and civilization.

On the other side of the Save and Danube we find a different state of affairs. The great struggle for Greek emancipation from the fetters of Romanism was brought to a conclusion by moral force—by pamphlets, deputations, assemblies, synods, and humble representations *ad pedes Majestatis*; and in the question of nationality, instead of efforts having been newly made to get the Slavonic populations to look to Austria for a barrier against Magyarism, these long-suffering and meritorious populations have for a long series of years, unseen and comparatively speaking unknown to the rest of Europe, followed the same pacific measures to ward off the new-fangled Magyarization as they had employed with such signal success in their former great struggle to break the fetters imposed upon them by the Jesuit Propaganda. Greek emancipation for a great number of years allayed the profound dissatisfaction that Jesuitical proselytism had caused; and the recognition of Servian nationality by the Emperor of Austria, and the nomination of General Suplicatz, must be regarded as an historical epoch for the Servians not less memorable and important than 1791.

But the struggle is evidently not yet ended. Peterwardein, the Gibraltar of the Danube, is still in the Magyar power; and strong as are the lines drawn round Carlowitz, it must be admitted that so long as this impregnable fortress is held by the opposite party it is not in the power of the Servians to expel them.

It is to be hoped that good will come out of evil,—for this war is an enormous injury to the progress of civilization in these lower regions. The College of Carlowitz is the Athenæum of this district. Here are formed not only the clergy of Southern Hungary, but many of the professors and schoolmasters who have exercised a beneficent influence on the other side of the water; but when an academic grove is surrounded with lines and trenches bristling with cannon a feverish excitement renders contemplation impossible. The pensive muse hangs her lyre, and the funeral wail of the Vila is heard instead. Those who live, too, are in straits for existence; inasmuch as Kossuth—shrewd, skilful, and provident—resolved to annoy his enemies in three important particulars: first, by getting all the fortresses, by hook or by crook,—secondly, by prohibiting all export of specie, and, having got as much gold as possible, paying away his paper with princely liberality,—and, lastly, as the Banat and Southern Hungary are the granary of Vienna, by securing the amplest supplies to his own party. These are proceedings which, doubtless, reflect great credit on his generalship:—whatever may be said of his ideas of loyalty to his sovereign, and of the liberty to be allowed to those whom his party has not succeeded in birching into a familiar acquaintance with Magyar syntax. P.

SONNET.

Winding and wild, the bowery ways I know
Spring maketh beautiful with violets,—
And Summer cools with leaves,—and Autumn slow
Turns all to gold, which Winter long forgets.
Here, in the fastness of this green retreat
Dear loving Nature softly wipes mine eyes,—
Or melts me into tears when tears are sweet,
Or helps me to be hopeful, calm and wise.
Her gentlest looks and lessons reach me here,
Feeding my soul; that airy motion soft—
The breathing of the woodland—lulls me off
With low continual music in mine ear;
The bird of sunrise lifts my heart aloft,—
And trustful Robin bids me baulish fear. M.R.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

WE need scarcely inform our readers that the value of the evidence to be published in the forthcoming Blue Book of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the management of the British

Museum—must depend in a great degree on the manner in which it has been taken; and, so far as the question of the Catalogue is concerned, we must not conceal that many complaints are made to us on that score. For the justice of these complaints we may pledge ourselves; but it is right that they should be stated, for the purpose of giving those whom it may concern an opportunity, if they shall think fit, to deny them. Uncontradicted, they will throw a taint over the results of the commission in the opinion of the public,—as they have already done, to our knowledge, in the judgment of individuals. It is asserted, amongst other charges, that when witnesses were under examination Mr. Panizzi was allowed to sit behind a commissioner and prompt a cross-examination,—handing up questions to be asked: whereas when Mr. Panizzi gave evidence these witnesses were not allowed to cross-examine him, nor even to be present. Nay, they were not permitted to see the evidence until now when the commission is at an end,—and, consequently, they have had no opportunity of putting in a reply. It is complained, also, that the officers at the Museum, whom Mr. Panizzi attacked and contradicted, are forbidden to reply by virtue of a minute of the Trustees which prohibits them from printing anything in regard to the evidence.—As we have said, we give these complaints as they have reached us—and could have put them more strongly and specifically on the same authority—without for the present attempting to weigh either their justice or their value. When we shall come to examine the published Report, it is probable that it may be found necessary to take them into account.

Among the votes of money taken by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, is one of 12,000*l.* for the purchase of the books and instruments necessary for the use of professors in the new colleges in Ireland. During a discussion which arose on the occasion, it was stated that the three colleges would all be opened in October,—and that the several professors would be appointed within a reasonable time previous to the opening. The presidents and vice-presidents, as our readers know, were appointed in 1846.

The Caxton Memorial, though a well-intended, has not been a well-conducted subscription. There was a mistake at the outset on the part of Mr. Milman. His idea of a light and a fountain, however more or less poetic and pretty, unhappily fell in the question of particular taste before the general object of subscription had been secured. It afforded to some an excuse for saying—"Oh, I should have subscribed, certainly—but I don't like a fountain; and Mr. Milman's fancy is sure to be carried out." The secret of success in all subscriptions of this kind is, to get as much money as possible without naming the precise kind of monument or giving a hint as to the artist best fitted to execute it. To do otherwise is to start points of individual difference before the ground has been taken on which they may be fought out. Had the fountain not been named at the outset—or a certain Committee of Taste referred to at the first general meeting—the Caxton subscription would probably have amounted to something much more considerable than the insignificant 450*l.* which it has now reached, and at which it appears to have come to a dead stop. When the 30,000*l.* subscription was raised for a monument or memorial to the Duke of Wellington, Sir Frederick Trench and his friends gave no hint to the public of the monster which Mr. Wyatt was to place on the arch at Hyde Park Corner; though it is quite clear from the after-torn which matters took (when there was plenty of money in hand) that Mr. Wyatt was designed to be the sculptor from the first,—and that the arch at Hyde Park Corner was the precise spot on which his statue was intended to be erected.—The Caxton Committee, however, are not idle (they now understand the blunder which they committed); and the London season of 1850 will see a meeting summoned—so it was agreed the other day—for the purpose of bringing the subscription and the memorial to an issue.

Another figure well known and frequently seen in our world of light literature has just disappeared. On the 12th ult. Mr. Horace Smith died at Tunbridge, of disease of the heart, aged 70. His greatest success in authorship was won conjointly with his brother James, in 'The Rejected Ad-

in which he appeared to great advantage as an imitator rather than a parodist. This success was possibly operated unfavourably on the development of his original genius; since both in the minor poems and novels subsequently produced by him the imitator was always more or less to be traced. Some of the half-sentimental, half-playful *vers de société* contributed by Mr. Horace Smith to the *New Monthly Magazine*, while it was under Mr. Campbell's editorship, were his best poetical efforts. His fictions were many; comprising 'Brambletye House,' 'The Tor Hill,' and other historical tales written in emulation of Scott, 'Zillah,' an antique romance aimed at the readers whom 'Valerius' had charmed and 'Salathiel' surrounded—and more recent stories half-philosophical, half-domestic—in which, to speak familiarly, something of "a cross" betwixt the manner of the Moores and Bages and Godwins of a past school and of the Dickenses and Jerrolds of the present was infelicitously attempted. Among these were 'Jane Lomas' and 'Adam Brown.' Mr. Smith also lent a hand to more than one collection of *poésies*. He will be more missed as a companion than as an author. He was singularly kindly and cheerful—devoted to the cause of truth and freedom—and advocating this, whether gravely or gayly, with an earnestness and consistency in which was mingled no single drop of rancour. This is high praise for a man having wit at command, and who frequented society during the times lived through by Mr. Horace Smith.

Lord Ellesmere is erecting—perhaps by this time has erected—a monument, with a short inscription, to mark the grave of Addison in the north aisle of Henry the Seventh's Chapel in Westminster Abbey. This monument was much wanted: for though Addison has a statue in Poets' Corner, it stands far from the place of his interment—and there is no inscribed name in the whole Abbey to tell "This is the grave of Joseph Addison." Hitherto the monument to Montague Lord Halifax was the uninscribed grave-mound of the great essayist:—for there could be no doubt from the verses by Tickell that Addison was buried in the same grave with his "loved Montague," to whom he addresses his noblest poem the "Letter from Italy." A pathetic passage from Tickell will form part of the inscription on the new monument: but the part of it will, it is said, record—as was too often the case in former times with "poets' tombs"—the "titles" of the accomplished nobleman to whom the public, not the poet, is indebted for the monument.

The well-known passage in the 'Museum Delicium' which we quoted in our notice of Mr. Cunningham's *Hand-Book for London*—has brought a shower of letters from "Constant Readers" and "Occasional Correspondents." T. V. U. cannot find the couplet in question in an edition of the work in his possession printed for Henry Heringman, at the Sign of the Anchor in the New Exchange 1665—a copy, he says, in "12mo," containing "87 pages." Another correspondent, writing under the initials of J. G. R., claims "a venerable antiquity" for the substance of the lines.

"It will be found [he says] on reference to the 'Menagium' p. 346, Amst. 1623) that the couplet is almost literally translated from an ancient Greek Epigram, which is there given, and thus rendered into French:—*Celui qui fuyent point en dat de 'se battre une autre fois.'*"

At the age end of the season, the condition of the poor is brought under public notice. Now that London is already out of town, the Society for the Improvement of the Dwellings of the Labouring Classes can find a moment to meet, to specify, to pass and re-pass oft-affirmed resolutions. The attendance and the enthusiasm were, however, on this occasion, equally limited. Fashion, which last year seemed to have set her seal on the work of Philanthropy, now marked it for her own, deigned this year not a smile. No lady-patroness was present:—the "Graces" and the "Highnesses" of encouragement were far away. Archbishop and Bishop alike withheld the sanction of the lawn. How is this? Has the mighty fund of sympathy which only a few months ago served, like love, to level all ranks so soon exhausted itself? Or, is it supposed that the revolutionary voice which seemed like the thunder of deprecation—and with it the need for the voice of deprecation? We leave these

speculations to such as love to indulge in them. The modern Timons may find much food for their sardonic humour in the sudden changes of the last few months. For ourselves, we admit that the dog-days in London are no joke while the cool Highlands and the lochs and moors of the West are wooing from afar with their mountain breezes;—and, as Lord Ashley said, there may have been "causes" for postponing the meeting until it was too late for such reasons to get an audience together. In any case, the thing was flat, stale, and unprofitable. A point of remarkable interest was, however, stated by Dr. Southwood Smith from his own experience of the effect of bad and good dwellings on the moral and mental character of their inmates. These necessary effects have often been urged speculatively in the *Athenæum*. The principle that a reform in mind and morals must be preceded by an improvement of the material condition, was distinctly laid down and made the basis of experiment by John Howard; and it has been recognized by every one who has made this branch of social science a study since his time. Dr. Southwood Smith illustrated this truth by cogent facts. He had noted the condition of men on their removal from the abodes of filth and misery to the better class of tenements which it is the object of the Society to get introduced. "After a few months," he says, "there was a complete change in their character and appearance—a change not confined to bodily health, but extending to their intellectual and moral condition." In the houses erected by the Metropolitan Building Society, the mortality for the year is not more than half of that for London generally; amongst the 500 children living in these houses it has been only one-ninth,—and no case of typhus fever or cholera has occurred therein. The moral consequence is not less satisfactory. Breathing a healthy atmosphere, men have not the same diseased craving for stimulants as when they work and sleep in close and tainted rooms:—simpler and more innocent pleasures content them. The work of reform must begin at the fire-side: and until the physical conditions are there improved, all other efforts must to a great extent be wasted.

We think the following anecdote—which has been furnished to us by a correspondent—relating to an eminent person in his way, though *à propos* of nothing in the present place, may amuse some of our readers—and be worth preserving as indicating the condition of ignorance from which, unsatisfactory as matters yet are, we have emerged at no very distant date.—The celebrated mathematician James Ivory was a native of Dundee; and, when a master in the Academy there, was the first person who introduced the study of algebra. It is said that at the conclusion of the first annual examination of his pupils, the chief magistrate of the place, who had been an attentive auditor, disapproved of Mr. Ivory's new way of teaching the A B C,—and gravely proposed at a subsequent meeting of the town council "to put Jamie Ivory away," as they had a gude enough teacher o' the A B C already."

The Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of France will take place this year at Epervan—commencing on Sunday the 23rd of September.

Yet once more has an old case of literary quarrel been brought before the French courts of judicature,—in consequence of the death of Madame Récamier. We are glad to learn that the wish naturally expressed for Memoirs had been in some sort provided for by the venerable Lady: who in her will appointed her niece Madame Lenormant her literary executrix, with full power over all her papers, correspondence, &c. &c. &c.—Among the letters is a series from M. Benjamin Constant.—It further appears that the journal *La Presse* has announced and commenced the publication of certain letters from M. Constant to Madame Récamier, communicated by Madame Louise Colet (a poetess of some small celebrity), unauthorized by Madame Lenormant. That Lady has applied to the courts for some prohibition analogous to the English "injunction" which would be invoked on a similar occasion. The case had been opened but was not decided at the date of our last intelligence.

The Austrian Government has sent over a commission, composed of a number of scientific and practical men, to examine and study the progress of

French "Industry" as expressed by the Exposition now open in the Champs Elysées.

It is pleasant to see that the authors and artists of Belgium have begun to feel honourably uneasy under the stigma which has so long attached to their country as the stronghold, on this side the ocean, of literary and artistic piracy.—Our readers can scarcely have forgotten a certain petition addressed not many years ago to the Belgian Chamber of Deputies by some of the parties commercially interested in the maintenance of the national offence; in which they put forward their helpless wives and children as arguments for their predatory habits,—and, by a somewhat questionable compliment, assured the Chamber that their sole hope against the spreading morality of the times was in its sympathies. Neither will they have forgotten a certain royal speech in which the yet undeveloped resources for literary robbery of the country were pointed out from the head and fount of Belgian chivalry,—and it was recommended that the necessities of the times should be met by fresh forays on the property of neighbouring lands. We, who denounced the one and the other to the indignation of the world, have great pleasure in now contrasting them with a petition which has been addressed to the same Chamber by a body of Belgian authors and artists, in which they insist on the evils moral and economical that result to the national character and literature from the scandalous practice of piracy in books and prints. If there were any truth in the inference of the former petitioners, the character of the Chamber, too, has risen more nearly than then to the standard of the times. The petition has met with a most favourable reception; and it has been referred to the Government to take steps for carrying the object of its prayer into effect.

Our readers are on terms of familiar acquaintance with that "extraordinary pike" which on failure of the accustomed springs of intelligence, appears from time to time in the shallows of the newspapers; varying in size and weight according to the conscience of the editor,—but these being generally in an inverse proportion to the shallowness of the stream. The season of newspaper drought is at hand; and it is probable that this "odd fish" will be caught many times in the coming season, and devoured by the quidnuncs with an appetite which is in no degree satiated by having so often fed on him already. Meantime, there are signs already of a disposition to take anything for fish that comes to the newspaper net. A paragraph like the following may be considered as a pilot fish to the coming "pike." It is going the round of the papers under the appetizing title "Victims of Fear":—and asserts that "experiments have been tried at St. Petersburg, by order of the Emperor, to ascertain whether cholera was infectious. Four murderers sentenced to death were, without being told who had been its previous occupants, put on a bed recently occupied by four cholera patients who had died; and not one of them took the disease."—Now, so far, this is well:—and the result announced from such premises is just the one we should have looked for. But the penny-a-liner could not be content with a reasonable success:—the temptation to try the proposition backwards was irresistible. Accordingly, "it was then announced to the murderers that they were about being placed on beds in which four persons had died of malignant cholera, and that if they escaped the disease their lives would be spared:—but instead of cholera beds, the murderers were put into beds which had not been occupied by diseased persons at all."—Now, even here an ordinary dealer in excitement would have been content to kill one—or at most two—of these men; and should have considered himself to have got a sufficiently striking illustration of the "effects of fear" out of that qualified catastrophe. The newspaper caterer has killed them all: all these four hardened malefactors died of the terror of the cholera beds on which they were not put, within three days. If he had spared only one out of the four, he would by that piece of tact have acquired a valuable amount of verisimilitude to his tale. The art of penny-a-lining is not sufficiently studied:—it has its rules for success as well as any other. Judging by this paragraph, the "pike" of the present season will be of a prodigious size.

the picture, by Collins—grey and green in its tones—
 'The Step-Stone,' by Mr. Creswick—very elegantly treated
 of the artist's best—fetched 48l. 6s.
 A group of 'Turks in a Divan'—one of Müller's
 Oriental combinations of such matters—sold for
 11l. 2s. 6d. 'The Drawing-room'—a party at cards
 and other figures in conversation on a sofa—inscribed
 Hogarth—remarkable as a picture of the manners
 and costume of the time—brought 9l. 19s. 6d.
 Madame de Maintenon and Scarron, a sketch by
 M. Egg, 15l. 4s. 6d. 'A scene from "Cinderella,"' by
 M. Redgrave, 21l. A poetical treatment of 'Paul
 and Virginia, near a Torrent in a Rocky Glen,' by
 W. Müller, realized 18l. 18s. 'A Cottage on a Sea
 Shore,' by Wilkie—wrongly stated to have been
 the birth-place of the painter, who was born inland
 at a considerable distance from the sea—a very
 clever specimen of the great artist's powers in land-
 scape—fetched 8l. 18s. 6d. 'The Gravestone Cutter,'
 attributed to Witherington, in reality painted
 by Chisholm, 5l. 'A Cow and Calf on the Bank
 of a River,' by Mr. Sidney Cooper—confirming our
 opinion as to his superiority in such sized speci-
 mens over the vaunted examples of Paul Potter, sold
 for 103l. Mr. Elmore's capital picture of 'Beppo,'
 lately spoken of by us, brought 183l. 15s. Mr. Lin-
 nell's 'Road Scene near a Farmyard, with Gleaners'
 capital, full of the painter's talent in such matters,
 a Hungarian scene, 'The Sale of the Pet Lamb'
 of Mr. Zeitter's best examples—sold for 11l. 11s.
 'Two Cows, a Calf, and two Sheep, near a River,'
 a little highly finished work of Cooper's, exquisitely
 painted, not inferior to Paul Potter—sold for 59l. 17s.
 'Dunmell Bridge,' attributed to Turner, obviously
 an early picture, 52l. 10s. Müller's 'Two Children
 in a Pool of Water near a Cottage, with Donkeys,'
 a picture like nature, but very hard in treatment,
 17l. 'An upright landscape, with two Children near
 a Brook,' not a very good instance of the ability of
 A. Calcott, brought 22l. 1s. 'Cattle watering
 on the shaded Bank of a River,' an excellent
 picture by Linnell, fetched 73l. 10s.
 A remarkable instance of combination of talent
 displayed in Messrs. Edwin Landseer and P.
 Gossyp's illustration of the fable of 'The Bull and
 the Frog.' The sky and the distance are done in
 the true spirit and feeling of the latter, while in
 the animal forms are observable the timid, apprehen-
 sive and conscientious care of the youthful artist.
 Such a performance is instructive,—as showing a
 path in the career by which excellence and facility
 in art are arrived at. It fetched 95l. 11s.—We
 conclude with Mr. Sidney Cooper's 'View in North
 Wales, with a group of Sheep and Goats,' one of
 his larger and best works, lately noticed by us on
 its appearance in the Royal Academy Exhibition,
 brought 178l. 10s.

LOW-ART GOSSIP.—What the newspapers call "the
 case of Mr. Barry" has been brought before Parliament,
 and made the subject of a Parliamentary Return. The
 point, however, is still unsettled—whether the
 subject is to receive the fixed sum of 25,000l., or
 5l. per cent. on the amount expended, which
 would give him a claim to something like 72,000l. Mr.
 Barry contended that Mr. Barry could not lay
 claim to any additional remuneration over and above
 the 25,000l.; and the Chancellor of the Exchequer
 in right of office the most important member
 (and up in the debate) admitted "readily" that the
 proceedings connected with the building of the New
 Houses "had not been conducted in a very satisfac-
 tory manner." The Return to the House contains
 a whole of the correspondence between Mr. Barry
 and the Office of Woods and Forests, and between
 the Woods and Forests and the Lords of the Treasury.
 In this correspondence we read the history of the
 remuneration as fully perhaps as it is ever
 likely to come to the knowledge of the public. The
 25,000l. was the sum recommended by the Woods
 and Forests to the Treasury by letter of the 20th
 of February, 1838 (more than eleven years ago);
 and on the following 1st of March Mr. Barry was
 informed by letter that the Treasury had determined
 that 25,000l. should be his remuneration. After
 waiting nearly a month to elapse before acknow-
 ledging this letter, Mr. Barry writes on the 27th of
 March and begs to be favoured "with the particulars

of the principle upon which the proposed sum has
 been recommended," in order that he might offer
 some observations upon the subject. He complains
 in the same letter that the sum agreed upon "falls
 far short of the accustomed remuneration to archi-
 tects both for public and for private works," and is
 in his opinion "very inadequate to the skill, labour,
 and great responsibility that will attend the execution
 of the work in question." Of course, the "principle"
 on which the Commissioners went in determining
 the sum is not made known; and in reply to the
 letter in which the Commissioners decline furnishing
 the particulars thereof, Mr. Barry, while repeating
 his opinion of the inadequacy of the amount, ex-
 plicitly states that he has no wish to do otherwise
 than "bow to their decision." So the matter rested
 for ten years; but in 1849 it is necessary to supply
 an estimate for the completion of the works.—and
 then the startling item appears of 72,000l. for the
 architect's per-centage, in place of 25,000l. for his
 fixed remuneration.—That the sum agreed upon in
 1838 was a proper and liberal sum we have very little
 doubt. The works were then thought to be much
 nearer completion than they are now found to be; so
 that what in that year was proper and liberal seems
 in 1849 disproportioned to the architect's time and
 talents. There has been very great remissness some-
 where—but it would be well that the point in dispute
 should be at once settled.

A clever lithograph of that triumph of practical
 science, the Britannia Bridge, published by Messrs.
 Smith & Son, is not only welcome, for itself and on
 its own merits, but acceptable as circulating one
 more evidence of the many advantages which have
 resulted to us city-dwellers from the combination of
 steam and rail. Here is a wonder-work which our
 fathers must have been content to read of and talk
 about; but which we can visit—see with our own
 eyes—and yet be absent but a single day, "from
 morn to dewy eve." No doubt, "excursion trains"
 will soon bring the whole journey within a cost to
 be calculated in shillings. These "excursion trains"
 are great blessings: they enlarge the mind and
 widen the sympathies of our mechanic population.
 They enable the weary and exhausted of towns to
 breathe the fresh air—to visit our inland cities and
 our island shores—and even to pass the "narrow
 brook" which heretofore made enemies of nations.
 The lithograph before us calls to mind one of the
 boldest of these speculations; in which the North-
 Western Railway Company announce that they
 have arranged with other railway companies, steam-
 boats, and coach proprietors, and are thus enabled
 to offer at a moderate fixed sum an excursion to
 Killarney!—To meet the requirements of the
 traveller, Messrs. Smith promise a Guide-book for
 his service.

A correspondent informs us that Mr. Blore's ex-
 periment on the spire of St. Mary's, Oxford, is a
 decided failure. Other doctors have been called in:
 and "in a short time," he says, "we may have to
 report the usual disagreement between such authori-
 ties." It is to be hoped that great caution will be
 exercised in dealing with this fine architectural
 relic.

The following is from a correspondent on the
 subject of the Waterloo Medal:—

"34, Upper Park Street, Bazaar Park,
 July 13.

"In a recent number of your Journal is given
 an extract from the Report of the Commissioners
 appointed to examine into the present state of the
 Royal Mint; and in that extract we find Signor
 Pistrucci stating that the dies for "the Waterloo
 Medal" had taken him ten years' close applica-
 tion, long days, to execute,—and that he purposed
 paying his respects to the Master of the Mint, with
 them, early in the present year. Permit me to
 inquire if such has been done; and if the dies are
 in a hardened state—sound and fit for use? My
 reason for asking the question is founded on the
 engraver, Signor Pistrucci, having stated in my
 presence "that no man in his senses would
 guarantee the hardening of dies:—so critical in his
 estimation was that operation. Now, from the
 peculiar and dangerous mode which Signor Pistrucci
 adopted to meet the difficulty—viz., that of making
 the border of the Medal on a separate die from the
 centre—I have as a practical man very great fore-

bodings that both will not stand. The border,
 especially—which is of a cylindrical character, and
 whereon the Battle of the Giants is engraved,—from
 its very peculiar form is certainly exposed to con-
 siderably greater risk than if the whole were one
 die. This work alone has (if I am correctly informed)
 cost the nation some thousands of pounds:—con-
 sequently, it will not be a matter of surprise that I
 should put the question. Perhaps some of your
 correspondents may have the power of answering
 my query, and satisfying myself as well as others on
 a point of such importance amongst numismatists.
 As what I have stated will bear examination as
 founded on truth, I attach my name hereto.

ALFRED JOSEPH STOTHARD,
 Medal Engraver to Her Majesty."

The world of French Art has been to some extent
 a sufferer by a fire which broke out suddenly a few
 mornings since at the Bazaar on the Boulevard
 Bonne Nouvelle. The two works exhibiting at the
 Diorama of M. Bouton—one a 'Picture of China'—
 have been destroyed. A much greater loss in the
 same department was, however, threatened by the
 conflagration,—but happily averted. The gallery in
 which was collected the large body of works con-
 tributed for exhibition and lottery by the Association
 of Artists, has happily been spared; and the pictures
 had been all removed—it is said, uninjured—by the
 exertions of the committee and their servants before
 the question of its destruction had been decided.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.—We were premature in
 announcing the ultimate close of the concert season
 last week:—as Chamber Concerts have been since
 given by *Madame de Lozano, M. de Kontski, Don J.*
Don R. de Ciebra, and Miss Wallace. Sir H. R.
Bishop's Concert did not take place till Wednesday
 last, instead of on the Wednesday previous as
 announced by us. Those who agree with us in our esti-
 mate of his music must have agreed also in our regret
 that the pieces selected were among the most familiar
 —not the best. It was hearty and well-mannered in
 the Italian vocalists to assist as largely as they did on the
 occasion; but the well-known Italian pieces had to
 our ears an particularly misplaced, the object of
 the meeting considered. There was some good sing-
 ing—Mlle. de Meric's meriting emphatic commen-
 dation. M. Jules Stockhausen made his *début*,
 and gave us occasion to hear a very *suave* and even
 baritone voice, though he be as yet unequal to the
bravura by Mercadante in which it was exhibited.
 There was also some singing so bad that it must not
 escape notice. Miss Alicia Nunn's version of 'Non
 più di fiori' was a marvel—in its way; so, also, was
 the delivery of a romance from Verdi's 'Giovanni
 d'Arco' by Mlle. Parodi. Yet the latter was *encored*.
 The programme included thirty pieces of music:—
 to specify which, one by one, and the artists who executed
 them, "exceeds our power."

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—'La
 Donna del Lago'—that poorest of stories set to the
 sweetest of music—on Thursday gave occasion to two
 new appearances; those of Mlle. Angri as *Malcolm*
 and of Mr. Sims Reeves as *Roderick Dhu*. We had
 expected that the former might prove the Greek
 lady's best part; but it was her worst, every pecu-
 liarity of her voice and style being presented in an
 exaggerated form. With regard to the English
 gentleman, we had hoped against hope—but he made
 some mistakes for which no one could have been
 prepared. What need was there of discarding the
 original *aria* with which the part opens, and substituting
 the superb 'Ah si per voi' from 'Otello'—
 merely to make it obvious, by stripping that *bravura*
 of its brilliancy, that he has little execution? His
 voice was not in its best order, nor was his manner
 "up to the mark" of his Italian comrades. This
 was all but inevitable. There is no magic fountain
 in which a singer who has depreciated himself can
 dip and come out newly-refined when he needs it.
 He who has habituated himself to please by executing
 bad music, must have made his effects unmusically,
 —and thus has too much or too little power when he
 is called upon to do "suit and service" to legitimate
 Art. Patches and passages of the finest declamation
 ever heard in England but imperfectly redeemed in
 Braham the twang, the shout, the coarse, hurried

flourishes which, having adopted them to please the galleries, he could never wholly lay aside. His fanatical admirers will not forgive us for saying so; but there was (at least ever since we knew him) a Bay of Biscay touch even in his fine recitative from 'Jephtha.' And Mr. Sims Reeves was less in case to risk concessions than his model,—being less of a vocalist, less of a declaimer, and having a less genial voice. Hence, however deeply we may regret it, the limits of his success on the Italian stage,—which need have had no limit. With every means of becoming the English Duprez (being in every respect more richly gifted than the French tenor), he is not very much better than an English Fraschini. A like disappointment, it may be recollected, attended the attempts of Miss Paton to doff the ballad and the gallery *bravura*, and to don the *cantabile* and *cabaletta* where Camporese and Ronzi di Begnis had been heard but shortly before her. If our countrymen will thus choose, we have no alternative save to record their choice and its consequences,—though our remonstrances fare no better than those of Mause Headrigg which called forth from *Lady Bellenden* as answer, "The error of my ways? ye uncivil woman!" There is still ample time for Mr. Reeves to retrieve himself, if it so please him.—The opera, save for the beautiful singing of Madame Grisi and Signor Mario, went in a slovenly fashion, strange to Covent Garden. It had been prepared, we believe, some fortnight ago:—since when, the chorus has had time to forget its duties while studying the more arduous ones of 'Le Prophète,'—which we hope will be seen and heard on Tuesday next.

NEW STRAND.—It is now many years since Colman's Comedy of 'Ways and Means' was performed:—but Mr. Farren gave his audience the opportunity of testing its stage value on Monday last. The part of *Sir David Dunder* was supported by Mr. Farren himself; and, despite his falling articulation, he by the mere force of accomplished histrionic art brought out the more salient points with vigour. Mr. Compton as *Tip toe* was excellent; and is worthy to pair off with Mr. Farren as one of the few performers who deserve the reputation of being stage-artists. Mr. Henry Farren as *Random* has much to learn. In dress and appearance he looks the character well enough,—and he evidently has a fair notion of it:—but his execution is clumsy. The hoydenish part of *Kitty* was acted with considerable spirit and vivacity by Mrs. Leigh Murray. The house was well attended.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—An advertisement that an amateur band of players on wind instruments is in course of formation, renders a few remarks neither superfluous nor impertinent; since it must be obvious that the taste for such gatherings is on the increase,—and when publicity is given to this, observations are warranted such as would be needless and meddlesome if applied to entertainments kept strictly private. Amateurship, its functions and limits, must, in truth, always be a subject of the greatest interest to those who concern themselves with Art; though few questions have been less liberally and less intelligently considered,—assuming the existence of a purpose higher than the amusement of a vacant moment, or than Vanity's strange desire to obtain fame without preliminary labour. It is too generally forgotten that those who make, as distinguished from those partaking in, pleasure,—nay, even those who passively enjoy as well as those who co-operate,—must work if they would "play" or listen reasonably well. Even a few trills on the flute or a few tunes on the *cornet-à-piston* cannot be acquired by inspiration: yet to how limited a distance will these carry their proud possessor should he betake himself to "making music"! If amateur instrumentalists are to do anything in combination, save to keep back taste by winning indulgent hearing for what is inferior on grounds distinct from its own merit,—it must be by conforming to discipline even more strict than that undergone by professional players, since the latter are inevitably "more in shape." Whilst under the training in question they must in some measure ascertain the limits of their own powers:—and herein again lies another "difficulty" to be solved by modesty and self-knowledge. The true lover of Art cannot attempt its practice without learning to separate what he ought to admire from what he can

execute. And thus *Araminta* (to illustrate after the fashion of the Essayists) if sincere and humble will refrain from screaming the passion of *Norma* or whining the sleeping meditations of *Amina* in a drawing-room full of opera-goers!—while *Damon* (supposing *Damon's* instrument an "Erard") will leave untouched Thalberg's "Mosc fantasia" and refrain from attempting Mendelssohn's *trios*. Yet, strange to say, experience proves the converse to be the case. We hope better things from "the harmony players"—as the Germans would call them—who are about to assemble. We trust that they will not only be willing to practise in concert, treating the engagement so to do as seriously as any other engagement,—but be content to attempt only what they can master thoroughly and finish highly, in place of "flying at every game," because there are in being such sax horns as the Distins, such a cornet as König, such a flute as Bricealdi, &c. &c. In one respect they are sheltered from a temptation which besets amateur *solo* players and singers—aye, and those of great repute—to a hardly credible degree; the temptation of improving their music by changes, omissions and additions. But this last is a very wide subject: to consider which would lead us far into the domains of private mis-judgment. We may perhaps enter these on some future day. Enough for the present if in the above remarks have been indicated some of the rocks on which the amateur is apt to split. Unacquaintance with and disregard of these have tended more than the so-called patrons of Art are aware to keep down the standard of taste,—and the real prosperity of theatrical and orchestral music in this country. In oratorios the English have fared better: simply because there can be no chorus-singing without self-renunciation and discipline, and because our choruses have been always more or less reinforced on "the voluntary principle."

We are glad to learn that Mendelssohn's 'Lauda Sion' (a work which will become precious to festival committees, inasmuch as it employs such foreign vocalists as cannot sing English) is to be performed at Liverpool. In consequence of failure in negotiation with Herr Pischek, the Committee of the Philharmonic Festival has engaged Herr Fornes to sing the part of *Elijah*. There being no doubt as to the suitability of his magnificent voice and sound musical taste, it remains to be seen with what success the new *basso* can master our strange English syllables within the compass of time required. In any case, he is a worthy successor to Herr Staudigl,—a formidable rival to Herr Pischek.

It is pleasant to note that political agitation has not wholly extinguished the German's desire to honour the great men of his country by due festivities. This year it is announced that the anniversary of Goethe's birthday, which falls on the 28th of August, will be celebrated at Berlin and elsewhere. In the Prussian metropolis nearly a week will be devoted to the festival. On successive days, the 'Götz von Berlichingen,'—the 'Faust,' with Prince Radziwill's music,—the 'Iphigenia,' and the 'Tasso' will be performed at the several theatres.

The news from Paris is parti-coloured in the extreme,—an oddly mixed tale of Ruin and Novelty. The fiercely hot weather, the political disturbances, the cholera, and the departure en *congé* of three of the singers in 'Le Prophète' have brought *L'Académie* so low that its doors, we perceive, are shut till the 1st of September,—before which period it is hoped that Government will come to the theatre's assistance. The theatre is to re-open with a new fairy ballet and a new one-act opera,—the music to both by M. A. Adam.—At the *Opéra Comique*, M. Bazin's 'La Nuit de la Saint Sylvestre' has pleased soberly.—Another comic opera, 'Le Saint André,' set by M. Bazoni, has been played at the *Théâtre Beaumarchais*: its principal part being sung by Madame de Solovieva,—the lady who was styled the Russian "nightingale" ere the Swedish one was thought of.—An American (?) composer, Mr. Charles Perkins, fancies or feels himself strong enough to gain a hearing worth having even in circumstances so little propitious: having announced a concert in Paris for Monday last,—comprising a symphony, two chamber trios, and several "melodies,"—*quare*, vocal compositions?

In a few words, we would cordially call the attention of all such as care for the stage to the perform-

ance which is to be given at Drury Lane in the course of next week for the benefit of Mr. Kenney:—whose popular comic dramas would have rendered any such appeal unnecessary had they been produced in our own days of protection for the dramatic author.

MISCELLANEA

Railway across the Isthmus of Panama.—Colonel Hughes, the chief engineer of this great undertaking, has published the following particulars respecting it.—The highest point of the road which is to connect the two oceans will have an elevation of only two hundred and sixty English feet above the level of the Pacific—an elevation which may with little difficulty be reduced to two hundred. This highest point will be reached by a gentle inclination of from thirty to thirty-five feet per mile. Till recently it has been supposed that the line from Sola-Nicaragua to Redigo on the Pacific offered the lowest level to be found in the whole space comprehended between Behring's and Magellan's Straits; but this conjecture is now discovered to have been ill founded. According to all probability, it is the plateau of Panama which presents the greatest advantages in this respect. The Northern Terminus will be established at that part of Simon's Bay which is known as Navy Bay,—formed by the island of Manzanilla; and which according to the English charts has an anchorage of thirty feet water at its entrance, and eighteen feet near the land in the direction of Point Coco-Solo. The point for the Southern Terminus is not yet decided on; but awaits the completion of the minute hydrographic examination about to be instituted. With this exception, the survey of the line may be said to be finished. The engineers left Chagres on the 31st of May for New York; where the plans and estimates of the works will be offered for contract,—and the works may be commenced about January next. The length of the railway will be about forty-four English miles.—The highest point of elevation is seventy-seven feet lower than that of any other route hitherto surveyed,—and a hundred feet below all those spoken of in his reports by M. Garalla the French engineer.

Fire-proof Ceilings of Wire-work have been successfully applied, in place of lath, with plaster and stucco as usual, at the Chester Lunatic Asylum. The wires are about a quarter of an inch apart, and the plaster forms an adhesive and serviceable mass, even on both sides. The wire is galvanized, or japanned, to prevent corrosion. Not only ceilings, one would think, but thin partitions and walls in general, might be wired in place of lath,—and risk of fire thus greatly diminished by a process neither patented nor costly.—*Builder.*

Effects of Competition.—It must be in the recollection of all who happen to pay attention to the subject, that in 1824-5-6, the period when the Liverpool and Manchester Railway Company were applying for an Act to form that line, a most determined opposition was offered to that great enterprise by the carriers between Manchester and Liverpool. Twenty-three years only have elapsed since the Royal Assent was given to the bill, but it has been more than sufficient to show how utterly unnecessary was the alarm at the gigantic project. At the present period we behold the extraordinary spectacle of all the water-carriers (since 1826 much increased in number) being fully employed between those two leviathan towns. Not only is each carrier employing more vessels,—but those vessels are so constructed as to carry double the weight they did in 1826, and yet the railway has fully as much carriage as it can conveniently manage. Lord Ellesmere, too, finds out, by the daily increase of his income arising from the tonnage, that he has no cause for alarm; inasmuch as he is now receiving a larger income from his canal than was the case before the Manchester and Liverpool Railway Act received the sanction of Parliament.—*Leeds Mercury.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—J. P. A.—W. D. T.—W. N.—P. Q.—J. B. T.—P. H.—P. R.—J. F.—received.

F.—As we mentioned last week, we cannot re-enter upon this subject.

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.—The Horticultural Gardens are not open at all on Sundays,—and you must have a special order to obtain admission into the Zoological Gardens.

Erratum.—P. 711, col. 3, l. 14, for "Cumberland" read Yorkshire.

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